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'Free online coaching for all PU students'

BENGALURU
Minister for School Education Madhu Bangarappa said the free online coaching for CET, NEET, and JEE will be extended to all government and aided PU colleges from this year.

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India warns against 'double standards' over Russian oil

Centre responds to U.S. Bill seeking to impose duties on countries buying Russian oil, and threat from NATO chief; Petroleum Minister says the sanctions will be 'dealt with' when they are passed

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

India on Thursday cautioned against "double standards", even as U.S. lawmakers consider a Bill that would impose 500% duties on India and other countries buying Russian oil.

The comments by the External Affairs Ministry come after indications that U.S. President Donald Trump is backing the Russian Sanctions Act, 2025, introduced by Republican Senator Lindsey Graham. Mr. Trump had even threatened secondary tariffs of 100% on countries that continue trade on sanctioned Russian products.

On Wednesday, NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte, who met with Mr. Trump and members of the U.S. Congress, also issued a threat, in particular to China, India, and Brazil, who are among the top buyers of Russian crude oil, oil products, and coal. "Beijing and Delhi" should push Russian President Vladimir Putin towards ending the war in Ukraine, or face tariffs, the chief of the military alliance said.

Responding to questions on the issue, the External Affairs Ministry said it was following the developments closely. "Securing the energy needs of our people is understandably an overriding priority for us. In this endeavour, we are guided by what is there on offer in the markets, as also by the prevailing global circumstances," spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said. "We would particularly caution against any double standards on the matter," he added.

'Diverse sources'

At an industry event in Delhi on Thursday, Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Puri said India would "deal" with sanctions when they are passed, pointing out that India has diversified its supply sources, buying oil from about 40 countries now, as opposed to 27 in the past.

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Strong stand

The 'Sanctioning Russia Act of 2025', expected to be introduced in U.S. Congress in August, mandates 500% duties on goods and services from countries buying Russian oil

What the NATO chief said

- India, China, and Brazil should tell Vladimir Putin to be serious about peace talks with Ukraine
- Continuing to do business with Russia will 'slam back' on these countries
- The secondary sanctions by U.S. will hit these countries 'very hard'

Centre's response

- Securing energy needs is an 'overriding priority' for the government
- India is guided by what markets offer and global circumstances
- Maintain caution against double standards on the matter

India in touch with 'friendly governments' in nurse case

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

The Indian government is in contact with "local authorities" in Sana'a, the capital of Yemen, as well with some "friendly governments" in the region to push for the release of Nimisha Priya, an Indian nurse who is on death row in Yemen, the External Affairs Ministry said on Thursday.

Apart from the rebel Houthi administration that controls the Yemeni capital, India has been in touch with officials in Saudi Arabia, Iran, and other neighbouring countries who can influence the Houthis, officials said.

The remarks came a day after official sources confirmed that the scheduled July 16 execution of Ms. Priya had been "postponed".

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Judicial panel blames RCB, KSCA, others for Bengaluru stampede

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah with retired High Court judge Michael D'Cunha.

The report of the judicial commission formed by the Karnataka government to inquire into the June 4 stampede at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru, which left 11 dead and 71 injured, was tabled before the Cabinet on Thursday.

The stampede took place during the Royal Challengers Bengaluru's IPL victory celebrations in the city. The report of the one-man commission led by retired High Court judge Michael D'Cunha has held the organisers of the event responsible for the stampede, while also criticising the role of police officers, including former Bengaluru City Police Commissioner B. Dayananda.

The commission has recommended "appropriate legal action" against representatives of Royal Challengers Sports Pvt. Ltd., event management company DNA Entertainment Networks, the Karnataka State Cricket Association, and five police officers suspended over the incident.

While a first information report (FIR) has been registered against the RCSPL, DNA Entertainment, and the KSCA, there has been no FIR against the police officers till date.

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A khata to be given to B khata properties in BBMP limits adhereing to six norms

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In what could bring cheer to thousands of owners of properties that are now in the 'B register' maintained by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), the State Cabinet on Thursday decided to provide 'A' khata to properties that adhere to six guidelines.

However, the 'B' register will be maintained for group housing that have violations.

While A khata will be given to plots, the document will mention any violation of the building bye laws. On the other hand, unauthorised constructions will not be issued B khata henceforth. The proposal for regulation of issuance of A and B khata for properties in the BBMP, which was cleared by the Cabinet, says that there is an urgent need to regulate and control unauthorised constructions in sites that have 'B' khata for which currently building plan sanction is not given. This is resulting in unregulated and uncontrolled constructions.

Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs H. K. Patil, who briefed the media after the Cabinet meeting on Thursday, said that a detailed order regarding the matter would follow.

As per the proposal, for a property to get A khata, it is mandatory that there is a public road connecting to the vacant site and in case there is a private road connecting to such a vacant site, it would be declared as public road as per provisions of Greater Bengaluru Governance Act 2024.

In case the property is on a land which is/ was Revenue survey number/ hissa but has not been converted, then the land shall be converted to non-agricultural purpose under Section 95 of the Karnataka Land Revenue Act, 1964. If the land falls within the approved Revised Master Plan of Bengaluru City then the permission of Deputy Commissioner is not required for diversion of land. The fee prescribed under Section 95 (7) of the Act can be paid to the authority according the approval.

With conversion, newly approved or already existing of such a vacant plot should obtain relevant approval under Section 17 of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961 either as a single plot or layout, after which the a vacant site would be issued A khata by the BBMP as per the GBG Act, 2024. Once the approvals under Section 17 is obtained, relevant approval from BBMP for the building plan and after construction obtain the occupancy certificate.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

Ahmedabad tops cleanliness chart for cities above 10 lakh population in India

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Ahmedabad in Gujarat has been named the cleanest 'million-plus city' in India, followed by Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh, and Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh, in the Centre's annual "Swachh Survekshan" cleanliness survey.

In order to promote new cities in the cleanliness rankings, this year's awards introduced the 'Swachh Shahar', or Clean City category, in which Ahmedabad, Bhopal, and Lucknow secured the top three positions in the list of cities with a population of more than 10 lakh.

In the "3 lakh to 10 lakh population" group, Mira-Bhayandar of Maharashtra topped the list, followed by Bilaspur (Madhya Pradesh), and Jamshedpur (Jharkhand).

New league

Indore, Surat, Navi Mumbai, and Vijayawada entered the newly introduced 'Super Swachh League', which recognises sustained excellence in cleanliness among cities, in the "million-plus population" category. A total of 23 cities were inducted into this league, with Noida, Chandigarh, and Mysore, among others, entering the "3 lakh to 10 lakh population" category, while New Delhi made the cut in the "50,000 to 3 lakh population" category.

The award for the 'Best Ganga Town' went to Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh, while Secunderabad Cantonment in Telangana was named the Cleanest Cantonment Board. Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh), and Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh) were declared 'Best Safaimitra Surakshit Shehar' for their commitment to the safety and dignity of sanitation workers.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Pristine places

The **'Swachh Shahar'**, or Clean City category, was introduced this year to promote new cities in the cleanliness rankings

Million-plus cities (More that 10 lakh population)
- Ahmedabad (Gujarat)
- Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)
- Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)

Big cities (3 lakh-10 lakh population)
- Mira-Bhayandar (Maharashtra)
- Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)
- Jamshedpur (Jharkhand)

Medium cities (50,000-3 lakh population)
- Dewas (Madhya Pradesh)
- Karhad (Maharashtra)
- Karnal (Haryana)

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For Archer, pace is ace

After waiting over four years to make his return to the longest format, the bowler underlined his importance to the team with his performance at Lord's; how England treats the speedster for the rest of the series against India will be followed with interest

GETTY IMAGES

R. Kaushik

The clock had just ticked over to 1.46 p.m. on a warm Friday afternoon when Jamie Smith, the England wicketkeeper-batter, edged Mohammed Siraj to substitute wicketkeeper Dhruv Jurel. In itself, it was a significant moment in the third Test. Smith had been a thorn in India's side in both preceding Tests, had been dropped by K.L. Rahul at second slip off the same bowler when only five some two and a half hours previously and had breezed to 51 when Siraj finally had his man.

As Smith walked off to a warm applause, a lithe figure sprang off his seat in the dressing-room, made his long walk down the stairs, past the Marylebone Cricket Club members in the Long Room and emerged into the sunlight. It set off a more frenzied round of approbation from the 20,000-plus fans at Lord's. The man walking out, at No. 10, hadn't played Test cricket for more than four years. This was his return to the five-day game, after numerous false alarms.

Jofra Archer had become England cricket's Most Valuable Property even before he first represented the country, in a One-Day International against Ireland in Malahide on 3 May 2019, just weeks before the start of the 50-over home World Cup. Formerly having played for West Indies at the Under-19 level in 2013, he made the move to England because he had a British passport - his father is English - and quickly made people sit up and take notice with his blistering pace from an unhurried run-up and an explosive but effortless action.

Dream start

It took him three years after his Sussex debut to win the nod to represent his adopted country - he was born in Bridgetown, Barbados - and he celebrated his England debut with three wickets in four successive matches at the World Cup, against Bangladesh, West Indies, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka. He then defended 15, just about, in the Super Over after the final against New Zealand ended in a tie in regulation time, conceding just two runs off the last two deliveries to facilitate another tie, at the end of which England were declared champions, for the first time, on boundary countback.

Archer's Test debut came exactly a month later, on 14 August 2019, also at Lord's in the highest-profile clash of a high-profile summer - the second of five Ashes Tests. Archer's reputation had preceded him at the World Cup; now, having seen him in action, the Australians were even more wary of the threat he posed.

The lanky quick had to wait nearly 100 minutes for his first wicket, Cameron Bancroft who was trapped leg before, but by the end of the Australian first innings, he had shown himself to be the real deal.

The defining moment of the Test came later in Australia's first innings, with Steve Smith - in his second Test cricket after a ban for his part in the sandpapergate scandal in Cape Town in March 2018 - batting on 80. Smith had uncorked 144 and 142 in the first Test in Birmingham whilst singing the redemption song, and was holding Australia's innings together with 80 of the finest in his team's 203 for six. Armed with the second new ball, Archer stunned him with a sickening blow to the back of his head with a ball that spat off a length and kept following the champion batter. Smith went down in a heap, retired hurt, came back to make 92 but was ruled out of the second innings, and the next Test, with concussion. It was a terrible moment, but it was also the moment when the legend of Archer started to take shape.

Archer played each of the next three Tests, taking six for 45 in his third Test innings, in Leeds, and rounding off the series with six for 62 in the first innings of the final Test at The Oval. With 22 wickets in four Tests, he had justified the hype, he had showcased his substance, his X-Factor, his ability to make things, to shake batters up, to bring the spectators to the edges of their seat.

Injury woes

Over in India, Jasprit Bumrah was making waves with his own uniqueness. Test cricket braced for Archer to join him in the destruction stakes. What an exciting time ahead.

In theory, yes. As it turned out, while Bumrah has gone on to greater things and kept his tryst with superstar performances, Archer hasn't followed suit, largely through no fault of his.

Fast bowlers have a few obvious target areas that stymie their progress - knees and ankles, the back. Not many have, however, had the misfortune of courting one injury after the other to the elbow. Archer's uniqueness, it would appear, isn't restricted to his bowling alone.

Between his debut and February 2021, in a little over a year and a half, Archer played 13 Tests for 42 wickets, around his early jousts with injuries. Then, his five-day career hit an absolute roadblock. Every time he was primed for a return, the spectre of injury raised its ugly head all over again. The sense of *déjà vu* was unmistakable, matched only by the peaking of the frustration levels - of Archer, of the England team management, of the other stakeholders of English cricket, and to the average fan who was reconciling to life without Archer in Test cricket, ever again.

But Archer himself didn't lose hope. It could have been tempting to go down the white-ball lane, to dump the agony of surgery and rehabilitation to prepare for long bowls in the Test match cauldron. He could have chosen to make a name for himself playing just T20 and 50-over internationals and a fair bit of franchise cricket, and no one would have had an issue. But Test cricket, with its nip-and-tuck and its fascinating highs and lows, appealed to him immensely and Archer told himself that if he didn't play another Test, it wouldn't be for want of trying.

The second coming

And thus eventuated his second coming, at the same venue where he had made a name for himself in the World Cup final and on his Test debut. Throughout the summer, in the lead-up to the one-off Test against Zimbabwe in Nottingham towards the end of May, Archer bombarded Ben Stokes with single-word text messages: 'Zim??' Zim didn't happen; it was destined to be Lord's.

After the Zimbabwe Test, as England were playing India in Leeds in the first Test, Archer featured in his first County game for Sussex since the summer of 2021. In Chester-le-Street against Durham, he bowled 18 overs for one for 32, enough to convince Stokes and head coach Brendon McCullum that he was ready for Test selection. England didn't rush him back, though. They picked him for Birmingham but gave him time to integrate with the new set-up, only unleashing him at Lord's, the place where he had stacked up numerous happy memories.

Archer must have had a song in his heart when he stepped over the boundary rope and took guard against Siraj. He was back, wasn't he?

His first ball back was an edge to third-man for four. A quarter of an hour later, he was dismissed by a peach from Bumrah, bowled through the gate. With a wry smile and a resigned mental shrug, he walked off, knowing his time with the ball was not far away.

Within 39 minutes, Archer was roaring like a lion, taking off on a wild run that was only halted by the slight figure of Shoaib Bashir running in from long-leg, rocked by the ferocity with which Archer thudded into him. There was a good reason for such frenzied celebration. Archer needed only three deliveries to make his first statement, having his Rajasthan Royals colleague Yashasvi Jaiswal caught in the slips in his first over with a trademark spitting cobra that squared the left-hander up.

His next ball, to Karun Nair, screamed past the batter's nose at 93mph. Within four balls of his comeback, Archer had sent down the fastest ball of the series. What else was in store?

Four more wickets, as it turned out. Plenty of fire. Numerous 'beat-the-bat' routines. The odd body blow, such as the one Siraj copped on his left bicep late on day five. Jofra Archer was back, unmistakably so. Older, yes. Wiser, for sure. And just as hostile, make no mistake.

At Lord's, left was right for Archer - all five of his victims were left-handers, including Jaiswal in both innings and Rishabh Pant in the second, bowled by a beauty that shaped in in the air, straightened brutally on pitching and rushed past his outside edge to send his off-stump cartwheeling. Just the previous over, Pant had charged Archer and swatted him, one-handed (he was favouring his left hand, injured index finger and all), through mid-on for an electric four. "Charge that," Archer screamed as he sped past Pant, clearly still rankled at the audacity with which the little 'keeper had treated him just minutes back.

Every time Archer had the ball in his right hand, before he set out on that graceful, loping run, two heavy gold chains dangling around his neck, there was a feeling that something was about to happen. It didn't, not all the time, but there was something poignant and visceral in Archer attacking the bowling crease. There was a buzz of anticipation, the expectation that a spectacle was about to unfold. Not many bowlers possess that quality, that reputation.

As Joe Root pointed out, the very fact that Stokes turned to a bowler playing his first Test in forever to have a go at the most prolific batter of the series when Shubman Gill walked out to bat in India's first innings was the ultimate show of faith, the ultimate vote of confidence, in Archer's skills.

How England treat Archer for the rest of the series will be followed with interest. If he has a say, the 30-year-old would love nothing more than to play at both Old Trafford and The Oval. After all, he has so much catching up to do, doesn't he?

THE GIST

- At Lord's, left was right for Archer – all five of his victims were left-handers, including Jaiswal in both innings and Rishabh Pant in the second
- Every time Archer had the ball in his right hand, there was a feeling that something was about to happen
- The very fact that Stokes turned to a bowler playing his first Test in forever to have a go at the most prolific batter of the series when Gill walked out to bat in India's first innings was the ultimate show of faith

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Commuters flag lack of transparency in auto, cab fares on aggregator apps

The Bengaluru Urban district administration announced a fare hike on July 14, revising the base fare for autos from ₹30 to ₹36 for the first 2 km. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Even as the recent revision in autorickshaw fares is set to take effect from the coming month, several Bengaluru commuters have raised concerns about the lack of transparency in fare breakup on popular aggregator apps such as Uber, Ola, and Rapido.

Users complain that these apps fail to show detailed fare components either before or after the ride, leaving them unsure about what exactly they are being charged for.

The Bengaluru Urban district administration announced a fare hike on July 14, revising the base fare for autos from ₹30 to ₹36 for the first 2 km, and the per-km charge from ₹15 to ₹18 thereafter. The revised fares will come into effect from August 1.

However, commuters argue that aggregator apps already charge significantly higher than the meter fare, often due to vague policies like 'tips', 'congestion fee', 'platform fees', 'driver addition', etc. Now, with the new fares looming, the lack of a clear fare breakup has only added to their frustration.

"I booked an auto for a short ride recently and was charged ₹97. I had no idea how that fare was calculated. There was no breakup shown, just a final amount. If we are being asked to pay more, at least we should know what we are paying for," said Sushmitha Rao, a resident of Jayanagar.

"I don't know what exactly these apps are charging for, and it is unethical not to give a fare breakup. The fare often feels arbitrary, and there's no way to check if it's fair," said Rajeev Kumar, a daily commuter from Koramangala.

The Hindu reached out to multiple aggregators for a response, but at the time of publication, none of the platforms had responded.

Namma Yatri rolls back revised auto fares after criticism

THE HINDU IMPACT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Auto aggregator platform Namma Yatri has rolled back its revised autorickshaw fares following a report published by *The Hindu*, titled "Aggregator begins charging revised auto fares before they come into effect, draws criticism from commuters", dated July 17 . The platform had begun charging the new fares a fortnight ahead of the official implementation date set by the government

Namma Yatri had earlier clarified that the revised fare display was not a full rollout, but part of a limited pilot to test system readiness and gather driver-citizen feedback ahead of the official implementation.

"Namma Yatri has always been, and continues to be, a community-driven platform. Our ethos is simple: commuters should pay less, and drivers should earn more ," said a Namma Yatri spokesperson.

Bengaluru ranks 36th in Swachh Survekshan audit

Ahmedabad tops the 'above 10 lakh' category, with a score of 12,079, closely followed by Bhopal with 12,067 points, and Lucknow with 12,001

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru has secured the 36th position out of 44 cities in the "above 10 lakh population" category in the Swachh Survekshan 2024, the annual cleanliness survey conducted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

In the previous year, the "above 10 lakh" category was dropped. However, in 2022, Bengaluru had ranked 43rd among 45 participating cities in the same category. This year's result marks an improvement of eight positions compared to the 2022 ranking. In 2023, Bengaluru ranked 125th out of 446 cities in the "above one lakh population" category.

Top performers

Gujarat's Ahmedabad topped the "above 10 lakh" category with a score of 12,079, followed closely by Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) with 12,067 points and Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh) with 12,001. Bengaluru scored 6,842.

In the "Super Swachh League" category, Mysuru secured 3rd place. In the State-wise rankings, Bengaluru stood at 15th. Davangere emerged as the top-performing city in Karnataka with a score of 9,131, followed by Hubballi-Dharwad and Hosadurga.

BBMP Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao acknowledged that Bengaluru has room for improvement and expressed confidence in better results in the future. "We have good plans for managing construction debris and solid waste, which will improve our standing in the next survey. We are currently transitioning to an Integrated Solid Waste Management system. Once that is in place, we will rank better," Mr. Rao told *The Hindu*. However, activists say that Bengaluru should have done much better.

BBMP Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao says Bengaluru has room for improvement, and expresses confidence in better results in the future. K. MURALI KUMAR

The new Swachh Survekshan indicators focused on cleanliness, waste segregation, collection, processing, wastewater treatment, and other parameters

"Bengaluru is losing score in a few parameters consistently since the last three Swachh Survekshan audits, among which is waste processing," V. Ramprasad, a civic activist, said.

He said that Mysuru has improved substantially despite collecting less money from people when compared to Bengaluru.

How it is calculated

Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) were assessed quarterly across four phases. They updated their Management Information System (MIS) monthly, which was validated through citizen feedback and reviewed by third-party assessors. Indicator-wise progress was documented and verified during the final survey in February 2025.

The new Swachh Survekshan indicators focused on cleanliness, waste segregation, collection, processing, landfill and dumpsite management, wastewater treatment, reuse, and faecal sludge management.

MoHUA conducted virtual sessions with States and ULBs to explain the methodology. Citizen engagement was vital, supported by digital, social, and traditional media campaigns to raise awareness and promote participation in the cleanliness mission.

Accused in ₹8-cr. bank fraud case, absconding for two decades, held

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The accused was living in Madhya Pradesh under changed identity

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) arrested Mani M. Sekhar, director of a private company, an alleged long-absconding proclaimed offender (PO) in connection with a bank fraud case of ₹8 crore. The accused was nabbed from Madhya Pradesh where she was living under assumed identity for nearly two decades.

The sleuths traced Mani with the help of an image searching tool.

The case was registered at CBI BSFB Bengaluru in August 2006 against the accused husband-wife duo Ramanujam Muthuramalingam Sekhar, MD, Indo Marks Pvt. Ltd., and Mani M. Sekhar, director, Indo Marks & BTC Home Products Pvt. Ltd., for allegedly having entered into a criminal conspiracy during the period 2002 to 2005. The duo, according to the CBI, fraudulently cheated the State Bank of India, Overseas Branch, Bengaluru, to the tune of ₹800 lakh through the misuse of non-fund-based limits in the name of Indo Marks Pvt. Ltd. and its sister concerns.

After the completion of the investigation, the CBI filed the charge sheet in December 2007. Both the accused failed to join the trial or respond to summons and warrants. Since the duo was on the run, the CBI subsequently got the orders to declare them as proclaimed offenders in February 2009.

Despite sustained efforts over the years to trace them, these accused had remained untraceable, prompting the CBI to announce a reward of ₹50,000 each for clues to informers.

While other co-accused were tried and were either convicted or acquitted, the trial against these two accused remained pending. During this period, the couple had changed their identities and never used the old KYC details, the officials said. They changed their names to Krishna Kumar Gupta and Geetha Krishna Kumar Gupta, their mobile numbers, emails, PAN numbers, and other information that were used before the charge sheet was filed.

Digital footprints

The CBI leveraged advanced analytical capabilities of image search to track the digital footprints of the absconders. The image comparison and analysis tools led to the identification of these two accused living under changed names and identities in Indore.

It was revealed during the search operation that Ramanujam had died in 2008.

The other accused, Mani was finally arrested on July 12 and produced before the Bengaluru court, which remanded the accused in judicial custody.

KOMUL recruitment scam: ED issues order to attach ₹1.32 cr. assets linked to Congress MLA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) on Wednesday issued an order to provisionally attach assets worth ₹1.32 crore linked to Congress MLA K.Y. Nanje Gowda and several others in connection with the alleged scam related to Kolar-Chikkaballapura District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union Ltd. (KOMUL) recruitment.

The ED accused Mr. Nanje Gowda, MLA for Malur and chairman of KOMUL, of colluding with KOMUL's Managing Director K.N. Gopala Murthy and other directors to manipulate the recruitment process, thereby depriving opportunities to deserving candidates while favouring others. "Investigations revealed that the recruitment process conducted by KOMUL in 2023 was manipulated in exchange for money and/or recommendations from political figures," the agency said.

The probe into Mr. Nanje Gowda and others began after raids in connection with a separate land grant scam in Malur taluk under his chairmanship in 2023. The ED has taken up a case against Mr. Nanje Gowda and others under the PMLA, 2002.

"He (Nanje Gowda) illegally enriched himself to the tune of ₹80 lakh out of the total ₹1.56 crore in proceeds," the agency alleged.

ED raid on promoters of Shushruti Souhardha Bank

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) raided more than 15 premises related to N. Srinivas Murthy and his family members, promoters of three cooperative banks – Shushruti Souhardha Bank, Shruthi Souharda Bank, and Shree Lakshmi Souharda Bank – in and around Bengaluru on Thursday.

The Shushruti Souhardha Bank went kaput in 2022, and its promoters were arrested by the State police, following which the ED launched a probe.

The ED said that proceeds of crime in the case is more than ₹100 crore. During its search operation on Thursday, the agency uncovered more than 20 high-value properties that were not identified earlier by agencies of the State government.

Promoters of the bank have been accused of cheating more than ₹100 crore from over 15,000 depositors.

Five held in rowdy sheeter murder case; MLA summoned

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The city police on Thursday arrested five persons in connection with the murder of Shivaprakash, a rowdy sheeter and realtor in east Bengaluru's Bharathinagar on Tuesday.

Former Urban Development Minister and MLA Byrathi Basavaraj, who was among five persons booked for the murder, has been served a notice to appear before the police, according to D. Devaraj, DCP, East. The arrested have been identified as Kiran, Vimal, Pradeep, Madan, and Samuel.

A Bengaluru court on Thursday granted 10-day custody of the suspects to the police. Considering the gravity of the case, Prakash Rathode, Assistant Commissioner of Police, K.G. Halli, has been named as the investigating officer.

Shivaprakash was allegedly hacked to death by a group of unidentified assailants near his house in Bharathinagar on Tuesday.

Government of Jharkhand
Home, Prison and Disaster Management Department
(Disaster Management Division)
T.A. Division Building, Near Golchakkar, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand – 834004
Email Id-disasteroffice-jhr@jharkhandmail.gov.in

Expression of Interest (Request for Proposal)

In accordance to the para-1 published in Advertisement PR No.-356198 Dated-02.07.2025 regarding submission of Expression of Interest (EoI) for offering competitive rates of Interest on fixed Deposits (FDs) from Nationalized banks, a format reflecting common amount and tenure wise interest slab is as follows :-

Period	Applicable Rate of Interest						
Period	Amount upto Rs. 50 Crs	Amount Above Rs. 50 Crs Upto Rs. 100crs	Amount Above Rs. 100 Crs Upto Rs. 200crs	Amount Above Rs. 200 Crs Upto Rs. 400crs	Amount Above Rs. 400 Crs Upto Rs. 600crs	Amount Above Rs. 600 Crs Upto Rs. 800crs	Amount Above Rs. 800 Crs Upto Rs. 1000crs
30 days to 45 days							
46 days to 90 days							
91 days to 120 days							
121 days to 180 days							
181 days to less than 9 months							
9 months to less than 1 year							
1 year							
Above 1 years to less than 2 years							
2 years to less than 3 years							
3 years to less than 5 years							
5 years							
Above 5 years							

In addition to this now the revised date of submission of proposal is 30.07.2025 upto 4.00 P.M. and date of opening of bid is 31.07.2025 - 4:00 P.M.

Joint Secretary
Home, Prison and Disaster Management Department
(Disaster Management Division)
Jharkhand, Ranchi

PR 357510 Disaster Management (25-26)_D

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public at large on behalf of our client Mr. R. Srinivethan son of Mr. K. Rangaswamy residing at No. G01, B Block, N D Sepal, Haralakunte, Sector-2, HSR Layout, Bangalore 560 102.

That our client Mr. R. Srinivethan is the absolute owner of Residential Apartment morefully described in the Schedule hereunder. That our client purchased the said Apartment from Mr. Bijan Kumar Ghosh and Mrs. Sayantani Ghosh vide Sale Deed dated 03/02/2012 and registered as Document No. BNG-BMH-9354/ 2011-12 in the office of the Sub- Registrar, Bommanahalli, Bangalore.

That the original Sale Deed dated 28/2/2007 registered as Document No. BNG (U)-BMH / 5541 / 2007-08 registered in the office of the Sub Registrar, Bommanahalli, Bangalore wherein the said Mr. Bijan Kumar Ghosh and Mrs. Sayantani Ghosh purchased the schedule property from Mr. Devendra Reddy and M/s. N.D. Developers Pvt Ltd has been misplaced / lost and not traceable. That the originals has not been pledged or mortgaged. That any person in possession of the said Sale Deed dated 28/2/2007 or if found may be pleased to return the original to the undersigned within 7 days of publication of this Public Notice, failing which certified copy of the same shall be treated as original documents for all purpose thereafter. That our client has registered a lost report with Bangalore City Police vide lost receipt No. 1706631/2025 dated 17/7/2025.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that Residential Apartment bearing No. G 01, measuring super built up area of 1231 sqft in the Ground Floor of B Block, along with one covered Car Parking space in the basement in the residential Apartment named as N D Sepal, with 443 sqft undivided share constructed on land bearing Survey No. 29/2-A, in Haralakunte Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk.

(Taji George)
Advocate
M/s. George and Co.; Advocates
No. 608, A-Wing, Mittal Tower,
M. G. Road, Bangalore -560 001
Ph: 080-41107925 / 9448491093
Email: tajigeorge@gmail.com

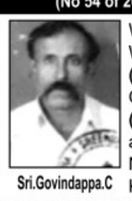
Bangalore
18-07-2025

SREENIDHI SOUHARDA SAHAKARI BANK NIYAMITHA
 # 113, R. V. Road, V. V. Puram, Bangalore- 560 004
Phone: 080-25401160-161, 9606018413,
E-mail: sssbn3mrh@sreenidhibank.com

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Sale of Immovable Property Mortgaged to Bank Under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.
(No 54 of 2002) -- SARFAESI ACT

Smt.Lakhsminarasamma



Sri.Govindappa.C

Sri.Ambarisha.G

Whereas **(1) Smt.Lakshminarasamma,** W/o.Govindappa.C, aged about 48 years, **(2)Sri.Govindappa.C,** S/o. Chikkaavalappa, aged about 56 years and **(3)Sri.Ambarisha.G,** S/o.Govindappa.C, aged about 28 years, all are residing at No.541, New No.5/3, 10th Cross, Kundalahalli Colony, Marathahalli, Bengaluru-560037, **have borrowed monies from M/s.Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha,** Marathahalli Branch, # 95/3, Kote N.C.P.R Tower Building, Outer Ring Road, Opp. Jeevika Hospital, Doddanekkundi, Bangalore-560037 and they owe a sum of **Rs.55,90,110/- (Rupees Fifty Five Lakh Ninety Thousand One Hundred and Ten)** only with further interest **@11.75 %** respectively as on **14/07/2025.**

Whereas the Authorised Officer of the Bank has issued notice under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and thereafter has taken possession of the property owned by **Smt.Lakshminarasamma,** W/o.Govindappa.C, aged about 48 years, residing at No.541, New No.5/3, 10th Cross, Kundalahalli Colony, Marathahalli, Bengaluru -560037, mortgaged to the Bank and has decided to sell the property, described in Schedule "A" herein below, on 'AS IS WHERE IS BASIS' under rules 8 & 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

DETAILS OF SALE:

Place of Auction: Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha,#113, R.V.Road, V.V. Puram, Bangalore-560004.
Date/Day & time of auction: 21/08/2025 (Thursday) At 11:00 AM

DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHEDULE PROPERTY:

All that piece and parcel of property bearing Site No.5/3, formed out of Sy.No.126, of Kundalahalli Colony Village, KR Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru, Measuring East to West: 20 Feet, and North to South:30 Feet, in all measuring 600 Sq.ft., along with building consist of Ground plus Four upper floors having 3200 Sq.ft, total build up area and bounded on East By:- Puttappa's House, West By:- Road , North By:- Korisi Ramanana's House & South By:- Road.

Reserve Price: Rs.92,00,000/- (Rupees Ninety Two Lakhs) Only

Terms & Conditions of Auction:

(1) For participating in the auction, the intending bidders have to deposit 10% of reserve price of the property by Bankers cheque/Demand Draft favouring The Authorised Officer, **Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha,** Payable at Bangalore which is refundable, if the bid is not successful.

(2) The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the bid amount immediately on the sale being knocked down in his favour and the balance within 15 days. Payment to be made only in the form of cash or bankers cheque/ DD drawn in favour of "The Authorised Officer, **Sreenidhi SouhardaSahakari Bank Niyamitha".**

(3) In case the successful bidder fails to deposit 25% of bid amount immediately on the sale being knocked down in his favour and the balance amount within 15 days, the entire deposit made by the bidder shall be forfeited by the Authorised Officer without any notice.

(4) The successful bidder would bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance such as Stamp duty, Registration fee etc., as applicable as per law.

(5) The Authorised officer will not be held responsible for any charge, lien, encumbrance, property tax or any other dues to the Govt. or anybody in respect of the property under sale.

(6) The Authorised Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject the bid or adjourn/ postpone the auction without assigning any reason therefore.

(7) The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank.

(8) The auction of the property will be made as per the above order or at the discretion of the Authorised Officer.

(9) For inspection of property, the intending bidders may contact, Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha, Marathahalli Branch, #95/3,Kote N.C.P.R Tower Building,Outer Ring Road,Opp. Jeevika Hospital,Doddanekkundi, Bangalore – 560037 during the office hours or may contact at telephone No.080 25401160/161/Mob: 9606018413.

Date : 17/07/2025
Place : Bangalore

Sd/- (G.Raghunadha Reddy)
Authorised Officer
Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha
Marathahalli Branch.

Navigating nutrition information in the era of social media

Social media thrives on black-and-white thinking, and much of the information is not always accurate; nutrition science is all about context, dose, and individuality; genetics, gut microbiome, lifestyle, stress levels, and cultural background all determine what works for you, say experts

Nabeela Khan

Do you start your mornings with detox water, flaxseeds, chia seeds, eat collagen for skin during the day and add a dose of magnesium for good sleep? If your answer is yes, you are not alone.

The global health and wellness market stood at $1.4 trillion in 2024 according to a report by McKinsey, the multinational consulting firm. The report highlighted that people are prioritising wellness more than ever and are looking for science-backed products.

How is wellness and nutrition a central narrative of our conversations these days? Clinical nutritionist Amita Gadre explained: "Today, the ultimate status symbol is health and vitality. A glowing skin, a high-energy lifestyle, and a fit physique are the new aspirations. And social media is the perfect stage for this display."

However, in an information-filled world, people are struggling to understand nutrition science, an area of study that is already a complex subject.

A recent peer-reviewed study conducted of Indian students highlighted how "social media impacts an individual's eating patterns by acting as a stimulus for immediate consumption of food, cravings and trying trends." Another study from South Africa also found that social media is used to "access and implement nutrition information while showing the inability of participants to assess whether nutrition information on social media is evidence-based and correct."

A simple Google search tells us what to eat or drink and how much, for our weight concerns, skin concerns or even conditions such as diabetes. However, this information is not always accurate, as it is sometimes not backed by strong scientific evidence, may promote conflicting views and could even distort scientific findings to promote one particular food item or product. "While social media has raised awareness, it has simultaneously created a "Wild West" of information that has deeply complicated the public's understanding of nutrition," said Ms. Gadre.

So what is the science behind nutrition and food? Vikrant Ghanekar, scientific officer, Biology Cell at Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education explained that the small intestine has an extensive supply of blood vessels to facilitate the uptake of nutrients. He added that "excess vitamins, minerals may not give immediate benefits because water-soluble vitamins (Vitamin B and Vitamin C) are lost through body fluids [urine] and excessive oil-soluble vitamins can be harmful for metabolism. Regular supply through fruits and leafy vegetables is enough to maintain a balance," he said.

Ms. Gadre explained how eating one food may not immediately impact our health. "Take Vitamin C as an example (from oranges). It is water-soluble, so it is absorbed in the small intestine and carried in the blood. Your body takes only what it needs. The rest is excreted in urine. No amount of oranges can force your skin to glow instantly. Glow comes from a combination of hydration, healthy fats, protein and antioxidants, not just one vitamin. Also, absorption depends on gut health, the presence of other nutrients, and overall balance." "So yes, eat your oranges. But also eat your dal, rice, ghee, sabzi, nuts – glow comes from nourishment, not gimmicks."

Consumption patterns: A recent peer-reviewed study of Indian students found that social media significantly influences eating behaviours by triggering immediate food consumption, intensifying cravings, and encouraging participation in food trends. GETTY IMAGES

'Food as a cure'

What many struggle to understand or often misunderstand, is whether food can cure diseases or medical conditions. Krish Ashok, author of the book *Masala Lab* explained "good food provides ingredients for the body's immune system to function at its best (genetically determined) capacity. But beyond that, food cannot act like medicine."

It is the same with seeds, spices and water. According to Ms. Gadre, kitchen ingredients such as carom seeds or fennel seeds (*ajwain, dalchini, jeera, saunf*) are great in culinary doses and have traditional digestive benefits. When asked if they could help lose weight, she said, "To expect them to cure obesity or diabetes is taking it too far. Superfoods don't undo overeating or inactivity. Weight loss and metabolic health require exercise, stress and sleep management and calorie balance."

Commenting on daily water requirements, she said, "Hydration is vital, but that 8-glass rule is generic. Overhydration can lead to electrolyte imbalance. A good rule of thumb: drink when you're thirsty, sip more in hot weather or after workouts, and observe your urine colour – pale yellow is ideal. Water doesn't flush toxins."

A simple keyword search – 'how to lose weight' unwraps a whole lot. Search results lead to multiple videos explaining how to lose weight with the help of 'natural ozempic'. These videos say that a concoction of vegetables such as cucumber, celery, and bitter gourd constitute 'Nature's Ozempic' and claim that this can lower blood sugar and melt fat. Ozempic is an antidiabetic and anti-obesity medicine which is prescribed under medical supervision for weight management.

There are multiple videos promoting juices of certain vegetables and drinking these on empty stomach for weight loss. Ms. Gadre, commenting on this trend, explained: "There is no clinical evidence supporting these drinks for sustainable weight loss. Moreover, Ozempic is a prescription GLP-1 drug used for type 2 diabetes under strict medical supervision. You can't DIY that with karela [bitter gourd]." She further warned that "Overconsumption of raw vegetable juices can cause bloating, nutrient imbalances, risk of kidney stones and even blood sugar dips if not combined with meals."

While social media promotes certain foods, it also creates fear around a few food products. This makes understanding what to eat and what not more complex.

Both sugar and carbohydrates have earned a bad reputation on social media. And while too much of either can be detrimental, many take extreme measures to curb it from their diets. The Mayo Clinic prescribes: "people need at least 130 grams of carbohydrates every day to meet the body's energy needs." A Johns Hopkins blog post on sugar explains, "Our bodies run on sugar. Removing natural sources of sugar and other carbohydrates from your diet – fruits, dairy products and grains – is not a healthy choice". Diets that cut out all carbohydrates and sugars, such as the ketogenic diet, can be harmful to your health, it says.

Ms. Gadre added: "Social media thrives on black-and-white thinking. Nutrition science is all about context, dose, and individuality. Is sugar "bad"? It depends. A spoonful in your chai is vastly different from drinking a litre of soda. The diet that worked for a 22-year-old actor in Bollywood is unlikely to be the right fit for a 45-year-old working mother in Delhi. Genetics, gut microbiome, lifestyle, stress levels, and cultural background all determine what works for you." When it comes to a nuanced understanding of nutrition science, randomised controlled trials are the gold standard to understand how and why certain foods get easily absorbed by the body. But a lot of claims are based on observations and observational studies, and therefore can or cannot be applied to everyone.

(Nabeela *Khan is a Delhi-based health and science journalist. nabeelainayati@gmail.com*)

THE GIST

- The global health and wellness market stood at $1.4 trillion in 2024 according to a report by McKinsey, the multinational consulting firm. The report highlighted that people are prioritising wellness more than ever and are looking for science-backed products
- A Google search tells us what to eat or drink and how much, for our weight concerns, skin concerns or even conditions such as diabetes. However, this information is not always accurate, as it is sometimes not backed by strong scientific evidence, may promote conflicting views and could even distort scientific findings to promote one item or product
- While social media promotes certain foods, it also creates fear around a few food products. This makes understanding what to eat and what not more complex. The diet that worked for a 22-year-old actor in Bollywood is unlikely to be the right fit for a 45-year-old working mother in Delhi

HUMERUS

Lab-grown cells help restore insulin in 12 persons with severe type 1 diabetes

Anirban Mukhopadhyay

Every day, people with type 1 diabetes track blood sugar, adjust insulin, brace for highs and lows, and watch for signs of the next crash. Even the best technology, including pumps and sensors, can't fully replicate the natural rhythm of a healthy pancreas.

But a new study suggests an innovative approach: instead of working around the damage, what if you could replace what's missing?

A small clinical trial, reported in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in June, tested a therapy called zimislecel: stem cell-derived islet cells infused into the liver. In 12 people with severe, long-standing type 1 diabetes, these cells began producing insulin again, improving blood sugar control and preventing dangerous lows.

It's early days and challenges remain. But for a condition where every treatment has meant compromise, zimislecel signals a way to restore what the disease took away without relying on donor organs.

Type 1 diabetes begins when the immune system attacks the islets cells, which produce insulin and other hormones that regulate blood sugar. Without these cells, people rely on external insulin, adjusting doses by trial and error. But despite automated delivery systems, about 75% don't reach their recommended blood sugar targets and some continue to experience episodes of low levels.

People with type 1 diabetes track blood sugar, adjust insulin and watch for signs of the next crash. GETTY IMAGES

The idea of replacing lost islets isn't new. Transplants from deceased donors have reduced or eliminated insulin use in some patients. However, as it stands today, the procedure is limited by several practical and logistical hurdles, Nihal Thomas, professor of endocrinology and head of the Centre for Stem Cell Research at Christian Medical College, Vellore, said.

"Once the pancreas is removed, the clock starts ticking." Mr. Thomas said. "Extracting the islets isn't straightforward either. You need a Ricordi chamber, a skilled lab team, and, even then, one pancreas may not give you enough. The actual infusion is not that complex, but everything that leads up to it makes the process demanding."

Instead of harvesting islets from donors, scientists made zimislecel by growing islets from pluripotent stem cells in the lab. These were matured into functioning islets and infused into the hepatic portal vein, with the hope that these cells would take root and begin producing insulin inside the body.

The trial enrolled people who had type 1 diabetes for more than two decades, no detectable insulin production, and experienced two to four severe hypoglycaemic events in the previous year. All 12 participants received a full dose of zimislecel and were followed up for at least a year.

To prevent their bodies from rejecting the transplanted cells, they were placed on an immunosuppressive regimen free of glucocorticoids. Within 90 days, all participants were producing C-peptide, a marker of insulin production, with levels more than doubling by day 365. Blood sugar control improved in tandem.

Phase 3 trials of zimislecel are already underway, with 50 participants from around the world who will be followed for five years.

"This study marks a promising step forward in a field that has seen remarkably slow progress over the last 70 years," Mr. Thomas said. "But if the therapy is eventually introduced to the market, important questions will remain around its cost and the side-effects related to life-long immunosuppression."

(Anirban Mukhopadhyay is a geneticist by training and science communicator from Delhi. anirban.genetics@south.du.ac.in)

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

'Free online coaching will be extended to students of all govt. and aided PU colleges'

Students will get coaching for CET, NEET, and JEE from the current academic year, says Minister Madhu Bangarappa

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

Minister for School Education Madhu Bangarappa said the free online coaching for CET, NEET, and JEE for admission to engineering, medical, and other professional courses will be extended to all government and aided Pre-University (PU) colleges in the State for the current academic year.

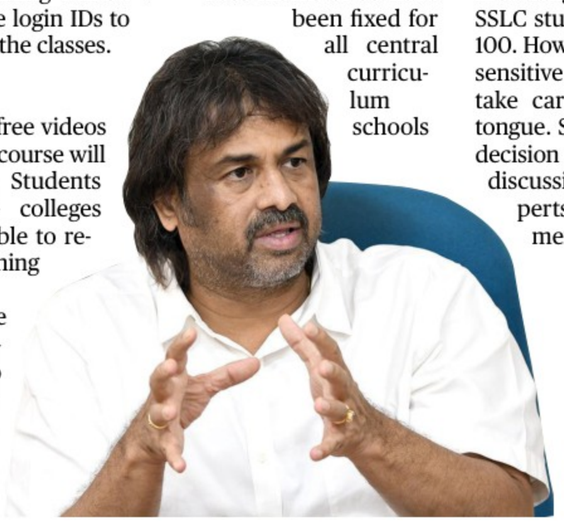
During an interactive session at *The Hindu* office on Thursday, the Minister said, "Last year, online coaching for the entrance examinations was provided to only 25,000 selected students in government and aided PU colleges. Since there is a huge demand for online coaching among students, it will be extended to all government and aided students in the State this year."

He said, "Most of the students studying in government and aided PU colleges belong to economically and socially backward families. Due to financial constraints, they cannot join private coaching centres. From 2024-25, the State government has implemented a free online coaching scheme for them. Last year, a student of a government PU college who received free online coaching joined IIT this year."

All students who enroll for online training will be given separate login IDs to participate in the classes.

Videos

"In addition, free videos related to the course will be provided. Students from private colleges will also be able to receive this training externally. They will be given the opportunity to ask questions online and get answers," he said.



Minister for School Education Madhu Bangarappa during an interaction at *The Hindu* office in Bengaluru on Thursday. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

'Pass marks will be reduced'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Minister Madhu Bangarappa said it has been decided to reduce the pass marks of SSLC examination from 35 to 33 on the model of CBSE schools, and it would be implemented from the current academic year itself.

"Pass marks of 33 have been fixed for all central curriculum schools across the country, including CBSE. This is a student-friendly measure and will reduce the burden on children. It has been decided to reduce the pass marks of SSLC students to 33, and a final order will be issued soon," he said.

"There have also been demands to reduce the first language marks for SSLC students from 125 to 100. However, this is a very sensitive issue, I have to take care of my mother tongue. So, an appropriate decision will be taken after discussing this with experts and the government," he added.

'Annual exam 2 and 3 may be withdrawn'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Once pass percentage of 75 is achieved in annual exam-1 of SSLC and II PU, the present system of annual exam-2, and exam-3 may be withdrawn in a phased manner, said Minister for School Education Madhu Bangarappa on Thursday.

"To prevent malpractices in the exams and provide quality results, SSLC and PU examinations have been conducted strictly through webcasting since last year. Following this, malpractices have come down. However, this has affected the results and last year, the SSLC examination results saw a huge decline. The pass marks were reduced, and the results were announced by providing 20 grace marks. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had expressed displeasure over the grace marks being given and had given a target of 75% results without any grace marks in the coming years," the Minister said.

"Every year, about 2.76 lakh students fail in SSLC and II PU annual exam 1. If they are given another chance, they too pass in just one month. Hence, annual exam 1 and 2 have been implemented. We have already recorded 73% results from exam 1 and 2 of SSLC and II PU this year. If 75% results are recorded in annual exam 1 in the coming years, we will decide on withdrawing annual exam 2 and 3 after discussions," Mr. Madhu Bangarappa added.

'Free residential school will come up for cancer-affected children this academic year'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

They will be provided free food, clothing, and accommodation, says Minister

The State government has taken steps to start a separate free residential school in Bengaluru city for cancer-affected children.

During an interative session at *The Hindu* office here on Thursday, Minister for School Education Madhu Bangarappa said that this will be the first residential school in the country, particularly for these children.

"Around 3.5 acres of land has already been identified for the school near Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, and the process of handing over the land is under way. Here, a school, a hospital, and accommodation for parents will be provided under one roof. The children will be provided free food, clothing, and accommodation, and students from class 1 to 12 will be accommodated," he said, adding that the school will be started from the current academic year. "There are about 3,500 children suffering from cancer across the State, and if the disease is detected early, it can be completely cured. Children who come from outer districts and rural areas for cancer treatment do not have proper facilities. Due to this, most of them do not receive treatment," he said.

"Since children lose their hair during the treatment, they feel uncomfortable attending classes. Therefore, if they are enrolled in the residential school, they can stay with their parents until they are cured. Teachers will be appointed through non-governmental organizations, and doctors, nurses, and medical staff will be appointed by the government for treatment," he said.

Doctor donates ₹14 crore to transform his *alma mater*

B.S. Satish Kumar
BENGALURU

The newly built Karnataka Public School at Honganuru village, and (right) medical entrepreneur H.M. Venkatappa. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Those who believe that government schools are inferior to private ones in terms of infrastructure and teaching facilities will change their opinion if they come across this Karnataka Public School (KPS) located in Honganuru village of Channapatna taluk in Bengaluru South district.

This government school is on a par with any international school in Bengaluru, as the 50-room school has about 40 computers, maths and science labs, digital teaching boards, a well-equipped library, and sports facilities among others.

Earlier, this school was no different from any other government school of rural areas. But the transformation was possible due to the initiative of medical entrepreneur H.M. Venkatappa, a doctor and alumnus of this school, who contributed ₹14 crore to construct a new building and set up the required infrastructure.

Inspiration

"I studied in this school from the first to the eighth standard between 1949 and 1957. The teachers of this school were instrumental in shaping the foundation for my educational career. I went on to complete MBBS and MD, although I hailed from an ordinary family, associated with agriculture. The then head master of the school, a Gandhian, inspired me a lot. I decided to rebuild and modernise this school to mark my association with it and also to ensure that poor students from rural areas get access to high quality education free of cost," said the 79-year-old doctor. The old building on four-and-a-half acres of land was fully demolished in June 2022, and two new buildings were built in the next two-and-a-half years.

The school has been turned into a KPS comprising LKG/UKG to II PU, offering both Kannada and English medium. The new school has become so popular that the student strength has increased by 150 to 200 this year, taking the total number of students to around 800 at a time when government schools in general are reporting a massive drop in enrolment. The school will be inaugurated by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Friday.

Patients struggle as MRI, mammogram machines break down at Kidwai

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Scores of cancer patients visiting the State-run Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology are facing long delays in diagnosis and treatment as the hospital's MRI and mammogram machines have been out of order for days. As a result, patients are left with no choice but to wait or seek costly alternatives elsewhere.

The MRI scanner, crucial for diagnosing and monitoring tumors, reportedly broke down 10 days ago, while the mammogram machine – vital for breast cancer screening – has been non-functional for over a fortnight, according to hospital staff.

Patients and their families, many of whom travel from rural areas and depend on the subsidised services at Kidwai, said they cannot afford private diagnostic centers where the cost of an MRI or mammogram can run into thousands of rupees. "I came here three days ago for my scan, and they told me the machine is not working. They asked me to come back after a week, but I cannot stay in Bengaluru for very long. Where will I go?" asked a 47-year-old breast cancer patient from Mandya district.

Sources said that the breakdown has caused severe bottlenecks. "We are trying to prioritise urgent cases. The repairs are taking longer than expected," a doctor said.

The hospital officials acknowledged the problem and said that tenders for repair and maintenance are under way.

"MRI scans are now being facilitated at NIMHANS and Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Trauma and Orthopaedics, based on a formal agreement (MoU) with these institutions. Patients admitted at Kidwai are being referred and provided the necessary diagnostic support at these centres," said an official statement.

Veena and vocal concerts

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

K.N. Krishnamurthy Guruvandana Samithi Trust will present a veena concert by Shubha Santhosh on Saturday. Vinodh Shyam will accompany her on the mridanga, and B.S. Raghunandan will play the ghata. The programme will be held at Sri Jayamaruthi Temple, in Basaveshwara Nagar from 6 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.

The Nadasurabhi Cultural Association will host a vocal concert by A.S. Muralion Sunday in Koramangala.

Govt. writes to Meta on 'faulty auto-translations'

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's media adviser has written to tech giant Meta flagging faulty auto-translation of Kannada content on Meta platforms like Facebook and Instagram.

"We have noted with concern that the auto-translation from Kannada to English is frequently inaccurate, and, in some cases, grossly misleading. This poses a significant risk, especially when public communications, official statements, or important messages from the Chief Minister and the government are incorrectly translated," read the letter, which further noted that it can lead to misinterpretation among users.

Terming flawed translation as 'unacceptable', the letter, written by K.V. Prabhakar, media adviser to the Chief Minister, urged Meta to temporarily suspend the auto-translation feature for Kannada content until the translation accuracy is reliably improved.

It has also called upon the platform to collaborate with qualified Kannada language experts and linguistic professionals to enhance the quality and contextual accuracy of translations between Kannada and English.

"Social media platforms must act responsibly. I caution citizens to be aware that translations shown are often inaccurate. Such negligence by tech giants can harm public understanding and trust," Mr. Siddaramaiah wrote on X.

While the State government's letter comes closely on the heels of the mistranslation of a Facebook post by the Chief Minister on the demise of actress B. Saroja Devi, faulty auto-translation of regional Indian languages to English has been a persisting concern. Srinath Srinivasa, who heads the Web Science lab and is the Dean (R&D) at IIIT Bangalore, speaking to *The Hindu*, said that the availability of good quality and large enough corpuses to train language models is vital for translation.

"Most of the corpuses are based on literary - not colloquial - versions of the language. This is called diglossia. In Natural Language Processing community, languages such as Kannada are known as low resource languages - not because there is less literature in the language, but there is less trainable literature. It is a major problem in most Indian languages," he noted.

Nirlendu Saha, who works as an AI engineer with an MNC, said the accuracy of translation varies highly across languages, with Spanish and French faring better than Asian languages like Kannada, Tamil, Mandarin, and Korean.

Chandan Gowda, professor and dean of the School of Liberal Arts at Vidyashilp University, noted that while the government is well within its right to complain about being mistranslated, there remains the question of why it is relying on a translation instrument it is unsure of.

Meta responds

According to a communique from Meta, the company's machine translation model provided a machine translation error, which caused inaccurate Kannada translations in Facebook.

"We implemented a fix to ensure greater accuracy. We have provided machine translation on Facebook and Instagram for years, and we are continuously gathering feedback in order to improve the technology and help the machine translation model learn to generate more accurate information," it said.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, JUL. 18		
RISE	06:02	SET 18:50
RISE	00:00	SET 12:32
SATURDAY, JUL. 19		
RISE	06:02	SET 18:50
RISE	00:28	SET 13:31
SUNDAY, JUL. 20		
RISE	06:02	SET 18:49
RISE	01:17	SET 14:33

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	23
Mysuru	29	20
Bengaluru	29	20

Bengaluru Today
27°C The weather will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
26°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

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THE HINDU
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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Indians deported from the U.S. since Trump's second term began

1,563 The Ministry of External Affairs reiterated its advisory urging Indian travellers to respect local laws. Meanwhile, India and the U.S. are in their fifth round of bilateral trade talks, with Mr. Trump hinting at a potential deal soon. ANI

Football banning orders in England and Wales as of June 1

2,439 Active football banning orders (FBOs) in England and Wales increased by 12% over the previous season. An FBO is a legal ban that stops a person from attending matches due to disorderly behaviour. Over 685 new FBOs were issued last season. AP

Rape cases in Maharashtra in first five months of 2025

3,506 A total of 1.6 lakh criminal cases were registered in the State between January 1 and May 31, including 30,000 thefts, 924 murders and 156 dacoities. In Nagpur alone, 10,423 cases were registered, of which 6,000 were from the city. PTI

Number of people killed in a shopping centre fire in Iraq

60 The massive fire broke out at the newly opened Corniche Hypermarket Mall in Kut, eastern Iraq, on late Wednesday. Among the dead were 14 charred bodies, still unidentified. The five-storey building, opened just a week earlier, reportedly lacked proper fire safety measures. AGENCIES

The rise in AI adoption among U.S. small businesses in 2025

41 in percent. The jump was even greater among firms with 10-100 employees, where adoption rose from 47% to 68%. Top uses include data analysis (62%), content generation (55%), and customer engagement tools (46%). AGENCIES

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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How is China leading the green energy sector?

China's renewable energy revolution is the result of decades of strategic state planning and massive investments in innovation. State-owned enterprises and banks had a key role to play in the rise of China as a clean-energy superpower

FULL CONTEXT

Kabir Jeet Singh

China installed more wind turbines and solar panels in 2024 than every other nation combined. This statistic alone underlines how China has sped ahead in the global green energy race, cornering the entirety of the renewable supply chain due to firm control over the extraction of key raw materials such as polysilicon and lithium. China also asserts dominance over the manufacturing of solar panels, wind turbines, and batteries.

China's renewable energy revolution is the result of decades of strategic state planning and massive investments in innovation. Starting with modest pilot projects in the early 2000s, Beijing is now leading in solar panel and battery production. In 2024 alone, China allocated a remarkable $940 billion into the renewable energy sector, according to U.K.-based research organisation Carbon Brief, from an initial investment of $10.7 billion in 2006. In comparison, India's renewable energy sector received a combined total investment of $3.4 billion in 2024-25 as per the Council on Energy, Environment, and Water, highlighting the stark gap.

Clean power: Workers install solar panels at a floating solar plant in Huainan, Anhui province, China in 2017. REUTERS

Turning crisis into opportunity

Apart from climate goals, what mainly inspired China's green revolution was a mounting crisis of extremely high levels of air pollution, coupled with concerns about energy insecurity. By the early 2000s, the country's reliance on coal had made its cities nearly unliveable, resulting in air pollution so bad in Beijing and Shanghai that it was visible from space and had garnered global attention. Importantly, growing public awareness about the adverse affects of air pollution played a key role in pressuring the government to act.

Moreover, surging electricity demand left parts of the nation teetering on the edge of blackouts. Also, increasing dependence on foreign oil triggered concerns over energy security. China's oil imports are largely dependent on West Asia and sensitive shipping lanes through the Strait of Hormuz and the South China Sea.

Therefore, what began as a survival strategy quickly evolved into a platform for national ambition. In less than two decades, China transitioned from an environmental underdog to a clean-energy driven superpower. The turning point came with the 11th Five-Year Plan (2006-2010), which elevated renewable energy to a national strategic priority. The passage of the Renewable Energy Law in 2005 created legal backing for this vision, offering grid access guarantees and price incentives for wind and solar producers, particularly private enterprises that received generous government subsidies. The state poured billions into infrastructure and R&D, while provinces like Gansu, Inner Mongolia, and Jiangsu were identified as early testing grounds for wind and solar farms, in keeping with the Chinese economic practice of starting with pilot projects before scaling up.

The role of SOEs

State-owned Enterprises (SOEs) and banks had a key role to play in executing plans that were led by China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and the National Energy Administration (NEA). Public sector banks provided heavy loans, while industrial giants like State Grid, Huaneng, and Genertec brought wind farms and solar parks online at record speed. As SOEs, these firms didn't face the financial limitations of the private sector.

The speed was enabled by a blend of state coordination and market dynamism. While the policy push ensured demand at home, the sheer manufacturing scale drove down prices abroad. From the start, Beijing had a global vision for its ambitions, using programmes such as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to push green trade, whether through the export of solar panels, construction of hydropower stations in Africa or building wind farms in Latin America.

"The undertaking of major national projects, quickly integrating funds, technology, and policy resources, and achieving scale effects that private enterprises cannot achieve, that is what led to this growth achieved by SOEs," explains Li Menghui, representative of Genertec. SOEs translated national climate policy into large-scale action, deploying wind farms, solar parks, and high-voltage transmission lines in remote regions. Due to the substantial support provided by the central government in the form of mandates, low-interest credit, and political backing, these companies could move more quickly and take significantly greater risks to innovate than their private counterparts globally.

SOEs were also deployed to focus on niche industries, allowing them to use their vast investments in the development and enhancement of a particular technology. Specialised SOEs were not only involved in building domestic energy infrastructure but also served as ambassadors of China's green agenda abroad. SOEs account for 55% of global renewable energy investment, as per Bloomberg Finance. China's SOEs turned clean energy into a tool of statecraft, aligning economic development with global dominance in renewable energy. Without them, China's rapid leap from fossil-fuel giant to renewable superpower with global influence would not have been possible.

Lessons learnt

China's green energy push wasn't without bumps along the way. For instance, in the mid-2010s, wind and solar installations outpaced the ability of the national grid to absorb their output. This led to the curtailment of energy, especially in northern provinces such as Inner Mongolia, Jilin, and Gansu where wind power curtailment was as high as 20% in 2014. These bottlenecks revealed a critical gap in transmission infrastructure. Although the creation of renewable energy projects was rapid, other aspects of national infrastructure could not keep up with the growth. Beijing responded through heavy investments in ultra-high voltage transmission lines and more focus on better integrating renewables into the national grid. Over a decade, State Grid doubled its investment from $33.31 billion in 2010 to $88.7 billion this year, according to *Reuters*.

Another problem was haphazard subsidy policies to SOEs that encouraged wasteful expansion, without adequate oversight. The vast expansion of projects encouraged a build-at-all-costs mentality, leading to redundant projects and inefficiencies across the sector. To correct those issues, Beijing tightened oversight mechanisms and emphasised planning that favoured efficiency and grid-readiness over capacity. One lesson for Beijing was that in the race for renewable development, speed could not trump structure and organisation.

Global influence

With a sprawling global network spanning 61 countries and a web of joint ventures, with local state-owned enterprises, from Angola to Hungary to Bangladesh, China's geopolitical presence in the sector has become deeply entrenched. The current focus is on ensuring dominance in the next wave of clean energy technologies. With support guaranteed by the state to firms such as Longi, Goldwing, and CATL, production costs have been slashed due to market dominance, leading to vertical integration and economies of scale. The next wave of advancement in renewable technology will arrive in the form of AI-powered smart grids, green hydrogen, and next-generation nuclear technologies like thorium reactors, all of which Beijing has set its eyes on with the same formula of aggressive state investment, breakneck deployment, and focus on the export of technology and influence.

The world now faces a bifurcated energy landscape, as the U.S. and its allies scramble to pump billions into reshoring clean energy industries through mechanisms like the Inflation Reduction Act. The key difference between Chinese SOEs and Western private enterprises is the ability of the Chinese state to mobilise large-scale manufacturing capabilities and properly utilise their vast scale. This enables low-cost, high-speed deployment of renewable tech, while the West grapples with higher costs, slower implementation, and far more complex political considerations on the adoption of green energy within each of their countries. The contest of the future, ultimately, will not be about panels or turbines or climate targets but who sets the rules of the global energy game. Will the future of climate tech follow Beijing's centralised, scale-driven blueprint, or will any other player be able to innovate fast enough and demonstrate a credible counter-model to offer to the world?

Kabir Jeet Singh is a student and writer based in Beijing, with a deep interest in global economics, energy policy, and China's ascent.

THE GIST

From the start, Beijing had a global vision for its ambitions, using programmes such as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to push green trade, whether through the exports of solar panels, construction of hydropower stations in Africa or building wind farms in Latin America.

Apart from climate goals, what mainly inspired China's green revolution was a mounting crisis of extremely high levels of air pollution, coupled with concerns about energy insecurity.

The key difference between Chinese SOEs and Western private enterprises is the ability of the Chinese state to mobilise large-scale manufacturing capabilities and properly utilise their vast scale.

From Page One

A khata to be given to properties with B khata

The proposal said that since a vacant site with existing B khata can comply with the above conditions and obtain building plan approval, building cannot be constructed in violation of KTCP Act.

Apart from satisfying the above conditions, the property – both land and building – will be issued A khata in case the existing building is eligible to be accorded approval under Section 15 of the KTCP act, 1961 and corresponding sections of the GBG Act, 2024 and gets the occupancy certificate.

In case the existing building is in violation of and not brought in conformity with the zonal regulations and master plan, then it will not be eligible to be accorded the approval under Section 15 of the KTCP Act 1961 and corresponding sections of the GBG Act. It will be recorded as "building violation of zonal regulations and KTCP Act" in the plot's A khata in relevant encumbrance/ remarks column of the A khata.

The proposal states that B khata would be given to only those multi unit flats/ units constructed unauthorisedly or in violation of KTCP act on or before September 30, 2024. The B khata will be issued only if proved that electricity connection from Bescom was received on or before September 30, 2024.

Vocal concert on Sunday

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Gayana Samaja will host a vocal concert by Lavanya Sundararaman on Sunday. The performance will take place on the Samaja premises from 5.30 p.m. It is open to the public.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Rajajinagara Division
Sir M Vishweshwaraiah Commercial Complex,
12th Main Road, 2nd Block, Rajajinagara, Bangalore-560 010,

No.EE(RNR)/KPP-TEND/07/2025-26 **Date: 17.07.2025**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
Through GOK e Procurement/KPP Portal only)

Rate Contract for Removal of Unauthorized structures and deviated portion of building in Rajajinagara Division (Call-3)

1. Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) proposed to avail services of Contractors/Firms / Companies for Rate Contract for Removal of Unauthorized structures and deviated portion of building in Rajajinagara division" on Rate Contract Basis. **2.** The Executive Engineer (Rajajinagara), BBMP, Bengaluru on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP invites competitive bids from reputed firm/ Agencies for "Rate Contract for Removal of Unauthorized structures and deviated portion of building in Rajajinagara division" on Rate Contract Basis. **3.** Only one proposal shall be submitted along with respective EMD and application fee. **4.** Other details can be seen in the RFP documents.

Calendar of Events: 1) Availability of tender document in e-procurement portal from: **18.07.2025**. **2)** Last date for submission of Tenders **29.07.2025 upto 16:00 Hours**. **3)** Date of opening of Technical Bid **30.07.2025 @ 16:30 Hours**. **4)** Date of opening of Financial Bid Intimated later

Sd/- Executive Engineer, (Rajajinagar Division), BBMP.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Office of the Chief Commissioner, Annex Building-1, N.R. Square, Bangalore-560002.

No: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/996 /2025-26 **FORM – III (See Sub-rule (3) of rule-3)** **Date: 15.07.2025**

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section **14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act,1961** the following 'Area' mentioned in the schedule below is required by the Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for **Construction of Underpass at Hope Farm Junction, for 33.40m wide road under the project of old Madras road signal free Corridor (Phase-I) for implementing the proposals of the Approved Master Plan-2015.**

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of land / building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District : **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk **: Bengaluru East** Name of the Village **: Pattanduru Agrahara**

Sy. No / Khatha no.	Type of land: Vacant	Type of land: Built up	Nature of Land: Agriculture Converted Undeveloped Approved layout / developed land Building Site	Dimension of the land / plot and extent in Sq.m: Dimension Extent	Boundaries of the land / plot: North	South	East	West	Building details: Extent in Sq.m	Type of Construction and No. of floors	Floor Area Ratio	Present activity on land/ Building (Specify Specific activity such as shop, office, factory, apartment, Individual house etc.,	Market (guidelines) value of the land per Sq.m	Name and address of the owner of the plot/ land for which DRC is to be issued
Sy No.34/2	Vacant land		Converted Land	269.85	Sy No.33	Road	Remaining Portion of Sy No.34/2	Road	None	None	None	Vacant	82,500/-	Divine Light Trust for the Blind. White Field Bangalore-560066.

Note:
- Market guideline value of this property is considered subject to conditions of payment of fee as per Government Order No. NAE 137. MNU 2024 (E), Dated: 09.09.2024 and as per the Circular No. Commissioner/P.S.R/G/1802/2024-25, Dated: 21.09.2024,
- Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below:

Name and address of the Divisional / Sub divisional / branch office	Deputy Commissioner, Land Acquisition & TDR, 2nd Floor, Room No: 208, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bangalore-560002.

Sd/- Chief Commissioner
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Office of the Chief Commissioner, Annex Building-1, N.R. Square, Bangalore-560002.

No: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/997 /2025-26 **FORM – III (See Sub-rule (3) of rule-3)** **Date: 15.07.2025**

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section **14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act,1961** the following 'Area' mentioned in the schedule below is required by the Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for **Widening of old airport road from Yamalur junction to Varthur kodi (SH-35) via Marathahalli, Kundalahalli & Ramagundanahalli (Phase-1) from Marathahalli Bridge to Munnekolalu Railway Bridge as per RMP-2015 for the width of 45.00m (Ch:1.300m to Ch:1.700m) for implementing the proposals of the Approved Master Plan-2015 for the width of 45.0m.**

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of land / building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District : **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk **: Bengaluru East** Name of the Village **: Munnekolalu**

Sy. No / Khatha no.	Type of land: Vacant	Type of land: Built up	Nature of Land: Agriculture Converted Undeveloped Approved layout / developed land Building Site	Dimension of the land / plot and extent in Sq.m: Dimension Extent	Boundaries of the land / plot: East	West	North	South	Building details: Extent in Sq.m	Type of Construction and No. of floors	Floor Area Ratio	Present activity on land/ Building (Specify Specific activity such as shop, office, factory, apartment, Individual house etc.,	Market (guidelines) value of the land per Sq.m	Name and address of the owner of the plot/ land for which DRC is to be issued
Sy No.102/1C, Khatha Sl No.220	Vacant land		Converted Land	187.55	Sy No.102/1A	Existing Road in Sy No.102/1C	Road	Remaining Portion of Sy No.102/1C	None	None	None	Vacant	91,328/-	Most Rev.FR.Bernand Moras Arch Bishop of Bangalore, Residing at Archbishop's House No.75, Miller's Road, Benson Town Post, Bengaluru-560046.

Note:
- Market guideline value of this property is considered subject to conditions of payment of fee as per Government Order No. NAE 137. MNU 2024 (E), Dated: 09.09.2024 and as per the Circular No. Commissioner/P.S.R/G/1802/2024-25, Dated: 21.09.2024,
- Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below:

Name and address of the Divisional / Sub divisional / branch office	Deputy Commissioner, Land Acquisition & TDR, 2nd Floor, Room No: 208, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bangalore-560002.

Sd/- Chief Commissioner
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Government of India Undertaking)

TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of Regional Railway Manager, Sr. Regional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Karwar, invites through Indian Railway E-Procurement System (IREPS) for "Provision of Earthing, Bonding, Surge & Lighetning Protection System for S&T Installation at 14 stations as per RDSO document number STS/E/TAN 3006 ver 3.0 Dtd 08.01.2025. In-Pernem, Thivim, Karmali, Verna, Balli, Cancona, Loliem, Asnoti, Karwar, Harwada, Kumta, Honnavar, Manki and Nandikur. Improvement of Existing earthing sysmen by providing additional earthings at 14 stations Ankola, Gokarna, Mirjan, Murdeswar, Bhatkal, Shiroor, Bijoor, Senapur, Kindapur, Barkur, Udupi, Inanje, Padubidri and Mulki in KAWR region. **Tender Notice No: KR-KAWR-SG-ET-205-08, Dated 18.07.2025. Cost of work**: Rs. 61,13,758/- (including GST). **Last date & time for submission of bids**: 12.08.2025 up to 15:30 Hrs. For further details contact Office of Sr. Regional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., Shirwad, Karwar-581306 (Karnataka State). For Details visit website: **www.ireps.gov.in**

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Publication of Tender Notice No. CAO/CN/BNC/125/2025 Dated:11-07-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Sl.	Item of Work	Approx. Value
1	Execution of site clearance work by carrying out jungle cleaning, earth work, dismantling of structures, laisoning with GoK authorities in preparation of RTC and mutation copies, taking possession of land and other miscellaneous works between Jamakhandi - Kudachi stations from KM 85000 to 142200. **(Tender Ref. No. : BGK-KUD-46-R)**	Rs. 6,26,20,300/-
2	**Hubballi Division-** Hubballi- Ballari Section- Construction of subway at Km. 117/000-100 in lieu of LC No.66 at Km 117/600-700 between Koppal and Ginigera stations (Balance works) **(Tender Ref. No. : KBL-LC-66-BAL-R2)**	Rs. 3,84,14,056/-

Last date for submission of bids:**Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 05-08-2025**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/Works /Bengaluru Cantonment

PUB/301/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Limited

(A Govt. of Uttar Pradesh Undertaking)
GSTIN: 09AACCU2250P1ZZ CIN: U85310UP2018SGC102425

Date: 16-07-2025

Tender Notice Invitation

Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Limited, Lucknow invites tenders on GeM Portal from eligible and qualified Manufacturer/Importer/Authorized Agent for supply of **following Medical Equipment.** The schedules of Tendering activities are as here under:

Sr. No.	Tender Ref. No. & Date	Items Name	Date & Time of Pre-Bid Meeting	Last Date & Submission of Online Bids	Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bids
1	GEM/2025/B/6458433 Dated: 16-07-2025	Orthopaedic Battery Operated Drill System	23/07/2025 at 3:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	06/08/2025 up to 14:00 PM	06/08/2025 at 14:30 PM
2	GEM/2025/B/6455564 Dated: 16-07-2025	Transport Ventilator	25/07/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	06/08/2025 up to 15:00 PM	06/08/2025 at 15:30 PM
3	GEM/2025/B/6454727 Dated: 16-07-2025	Anaesthesia Machine	25/07/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	06/08/2025 up to 15:00 PM	06/08/2025 at 15:30 PM
4	GEM/2025/B/6455283 Dated: 16-07-2025	ICU Ventilators	25/07/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	06/08/2025 up to 15:00 PM	06/08/2025 at 15:30 PM
5	GEM/2025/B/6457632 Dated: 16-07-2025	Cardiac Monitor with Defibrillator	25/07/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	06/08/2025 up to 14:00 PM	06/08/2025 at 14:30 PM
6	GEM/2025/B/6458981 Dated: 16-07-2025	Electrocautery Machine	28/07/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	06/08/2025 up to 15:00 PM	06/08/2025 at 15:30 PM

The details of tender notice are given on GeM Portal & UPMSCL website www.upmsc.in. Kindly check GeM Portal & UPMSCL website for any detail & updates.

Managing Director, UPMSCL

Department of Medical Health & Family Welfare, Uttar Pradesh

Government of Karnataka

Karnataka Public Works, Department, Sirasi Division(U.K), Karnataka Ph: 08384-223164, Fax: 08384-224100

No. PWD/SR./Dn/AE/IFT/5054MDR.Imp/2025-26/886 **Date: 10.07.2025**

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT) (Short Term) KW-4
e-TENDER NOTIFICATION (2nd Call)
SE Office letter No: 1464 Date: 05.07.2025

(1) The Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Sirasi invites tenders from eligible tenderers, for the construction of works detailed in the Table below. The tenderers may submit tenders for any or all of the works given in the Table. **The price tender which will be opened only if the Tenderer is found to be qualified to execute the tendered works. The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Instructions to Tenderers to qualify for award of the contract. (26.03.2021)** (2) Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka e-Procurement website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/eportal/index.seam** under login for Contractors: (3) Tenders must be accompanied by EMD Declaration form Proforma attached (4) Tenders must be electronically submitted (on-line through internet) with in the date and time published in e-procurement portal. The technical bid will be opened after prescribed time and date in the eprocurement portal, in the presence of the Tenderers who wish to attend at the Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Department, SIRSI Division. (5) Other details can be seen in the tender documents
(Total: 1 Work)
(1) Last date and time for Tender Queries/Clarifications: **21-07-2025 up to 16.00.00** (2) Last Date and Time for receipt of tenders: **22-07-2025 up to 16.00.00** (3) Date and Time for opening of Technical Bid: **23-07-2025 @ 16.30.00** (4) Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid: **24-07-2025 @ 16.00.00**

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Public Work Department Division
Sirsi (Uttara Kannada)

DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/288/25-26 dt.17.07.2025

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

Bengaluru South End Circle Branch,
96, South End Road, South End Circle, Bengaluru- 560004
Email: cb1173@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the secured creditors, the **possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Canara Bank, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on 02.08.2025 from 11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.** [with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each till the conclusion of sale], for recovery of **Rs.1,73,24,060/-** (Rupees One Crore Seventy Three lakhs Twenty Four thousand Sixty Only) plus further interest thereon **from 19.02.2022** and other expenses due to Canara Bank from **Sri. Srinivas Burra.**

Full description of the immovable property, Reserve Price, EMD, Outstanding Dues if any are as under:-

DETAILS AND FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY(IES) **(Rs.in lacs)**

Lot	Description of the Immovable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1.	**SCHEDULE "A" PROPERTY:** All that piece and parcel of the Property being the Vacant Site bearing No.334 in Converted Survey No.23/2 situated at Kasavanahalli Village, vide Conversion Order No.B.DIS.ALN.SR(S).388/1991-92, dated 14.05.1992 issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District and Converted Survey No.35, vide Conversion Order No.B.DIS.ALN.SR.(S).365/1991-92, dated 22.05.1992 issued by the Deputy Commissioner of Bengaluru District situated at Junna Sandra Village, Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, now comes under jurisdiction of Doddakennahalli Village Panchayath Area, Bengaluru South Taluk, measuring East to West 80 Feet and North to South 50 Feet totally measuring 4,000 Square Feet and bounded:_On the East: 50 feet Road, On the West: Site No. 344 and 345 , On the North: Site No. 333, On the South: Site No. 335 **SCHEDULE "B" PROPERTY:** 378 Square Feet undivided share, right. Title and interest in the Schedule 'A' Property. **SCHEDULE "C" PROPERTY:** All that piece and parcel of the Residential Apartment bearing Flat No.101 in the Ground Floor in the Residential Apartment Complex known as K.R.RESIDENCY constructed on the Schedule 'A' Property having a Super Built Up Area measuring 1,200 Square Feet including proportionate share in common areas, such as, passages, lobbies, staircase, lifts, etc., alongwith One Covered Car Parking Space	89.69 Lakhs	8.97 Lakhs	1.00 Lakhs

The EMD should be deposited on or before 01.08.2025up to 5.00 pm
The property will not be sold below the Reserve Price.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.canarabank.com/english/announcements/sale-notice/karnataka/ provided on the Secured Creditors' Website i.ewww.canarabank.com. or may contact Chief Manager, South End Road Branch, Bangalore, Ph. No. 9976633313, 080- 22447997, 8334999471 during office hours on any working day.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 15.07.2025

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & VETERINARY SERVICES,

Office of the Commissioner, Pashupaalana Bhavana, 1st Floor, Opp. to CBI Office, Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru - 560 024.
Email : jdfarmsahvs@gmail.com **Ph:** 080-23412767

No: CAH/Feed/Tender/Viva-1/2025-26 **Dated: 17-07-2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(KPP portal mode only)

The Commissioner Of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Government Of Karnataka, Bangalore, hereby invites Tender through KPP Portal from eligible tenderers for Supply of Cattle Feed for the year 2025-26. Approximate Tender Amount is **Rs.250 Lakhs.**

Complete tender documents can be viewed by visiting KPP Portal website from **17-07-2025** and tenderers can upload all the necessary documents through KPP Portal from Dt: **17-07-2025 to Dt: 31-07-2025 till 5.30p.m.**

Further information can be obtained from KPP Portal and concerned officer in this office during office hours.

Sd/- Deputy Director (Fodder & Dairy), & Member Secretary, Tender Inviting Committee, Department Of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services,

DIPR/CP/1877/Zen/2025-26

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

Office of The Chief Engineer (South),
7th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bangalore - 560009

No. BWSSB/CH/EIC/CE(S)/2194/2025-26 **Date: 15.07.2025**

INVITATION FOR TENDER-2nd Call
(Through KPP Portal Only)

BWSSB invites tenders in Two Stage Tender System from Eligible Contractors for the Work of **regularization / disconnection of unauthorized connections (BLUE FORCE) of 16 Divisions under Maintenance Zone of BWSSB.**

Amount Put to Tender : **Rs. 340.06 Lakhs.**
EMD Amount : **Rs. 6.02 Lakhs.**

The Last date and time for Receipt of tenders will be on **01.08.2025 upto 15.00 hrs.** The bids will be opened on: **02.08.2025 after 17.00 hrs**. The detail regarding the tender & participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the below signed office during working hours.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (South)

DIPR/CP/1879/Zen/2025-26

KARNATAKA SKILL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (KVTSDC)

3rd Floor´ Koushalya Bhavana
Bannerghatta Road, Dairy Circle
Bangalore -560029, Phone No: 080-29522222
e-mail: kvt.iti@gmail.com & e-mail: eoi-rfp@kaushalkar.com

No: KSDC/ADM/OS-VEHICLE TENDER/CR-02/2025-26 Dated: 17.07.2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Karnataka Skill Development Corporation has invited the **"Hiring of Vehicles (Cars) Monthly Basis (Two Year Contract)** Tender (Two cover bid system as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act-2000 through e-procurement portal. Bids are invited from the eligible bidders for **"Hiring of Vehicles (Cars) Monthly Basis (Two Year Contract)** Tender Document Number: **KSDC/2025-26 SE0018** Tender Document is Available for download from: **18.07.2025** Last date for Proposal Submission: **30.07.2025**. The e-tender notification documents & tender processing fees, EMD details are available in e-procurement web portal-**https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Helpdesk– Phone No +91-9240214000 / +91-9240214001 or you may also contact the office during working hours.

Sd/- Tender Inviting Authority and Executive Director-2 KSDC, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/1888/AKAR/2025-26

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No.: CEE/OPR/GLB/SEE(O)/AEE-4/2025-26/3728 & 3713 Date: 15.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP Portal only)

KPTCL, Transmission (Operations) Zone, Kalaburagi invites bids from the eligible bidders for the following bid enquiry Nos.

(1) Bid enquiry No.: KPTCL/ 2025-26/ SS/Hutti, Date: 11.07.2025. **Name of the work:** Enhancement of 1x10MVA, 110/11KV Power Transformer-3 to 1x20MVA, 110/11KV Power Transformer at 110/11KV Hutti sub-station in Lingasugur Taluk and Raichur District on Total Turnkey basis including supply of all matching materials/equipments and erection (including Dismantling and civil works) of all materials/equipments, testing and commissioning. **(Amount put to tender Rs. 6,52,45,467.54).**

(2) Bid enquiry No.: KPTCL/ 2025-26/ SS/Maliyabad Date: 14.07.2025. **Name of the work:** Replacement of 2x10MVA 110/11KV Transformers by 2x20MVA, 110/11KV Transformers and providing additional switchgear at 110KV Maliyabad Sub Station in Raichur Taluk, Raichur District on Partial Turnkey Basis, including supply of all materials/equipments (Excluding supply of 20 MVA power transformers and 11KV Switchgear) and Erection (including dismantling & Civil works) of all Materials/Equipments, Testing and Commissioning. **(Amount put to tender Rs. 1,19,85,253.80).**

For more information log on to KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after for Sl. No. (1): 19.07.2025 and for Sl. No. (2): 21.07.2025.**

Sd/- Chief Engineer, Electy., Transmission (Operations) Zone, KPTCL, Sedam Road, Kalaburagi.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of AC (welfare), BBMP Head Office, 2nd floor, Annex-2 Building, N.R.Square, Bengaluru-560002.
Email: welfarebbmp@gmail.com

No:BBMP/2025-26/PREQUAL_TENDER NUMBER_20 **Date:17.07.2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Expression of Interest For Empanelment of authorized Vehicle Suppliers for Providing Electrical Vending Vehicles to Street Vendors of BBMP

TENDER SCHEDULE

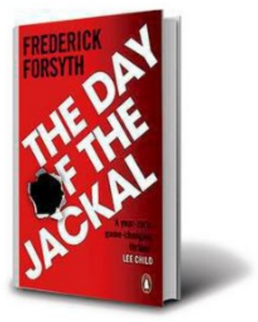
Tender Reference No: BBMP/2025-26/PREQUAL_TENDER NUMBER_20	
1.	Date of Commencement of Download of EOI Document from Kpp Portal Website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** From **17.07.2025** onwards
2.	Date, Time & Venue of Pre-bid Meeting on **21.07.2025** at **12:30** pm at the following venue: Office of the Special Commissioner Health, Annex-3 Building, 3rd Floor, Bengaluru - 560002
3.	Last date and Time for uploading Online Queries in KPP Portal on **21.07.2025** upto **5:00** pm
4.	Last Date and Time for uploading of EOI in kpp portal on **31.07.2025** upto **5:00** pm
5.	Date and Time of online Opening of EOI Applications in kpp portal **01.08.2025** at **5:10** pm
6.	Date and Time of Demonstration of Sample Submission Shall be intimated after technical bid opening
7.	Address for Communication: Office of the AC (Welfare), 2nd floor, Annex-2 Building, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002. Ph: 9844126625, email id: welfarebbmp@gmail.com.

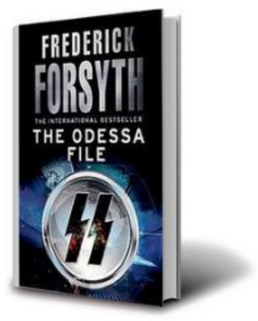
1. Tender Documents may be downloaded from the website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
2. Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

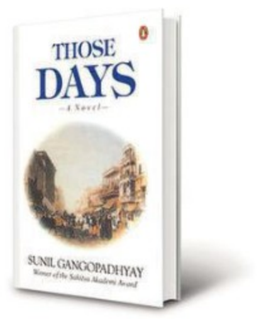
Sd/- Assistant Commissioner (Welfare), BBMP

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Prolific writer: British writer Frederick Forsyth poses for a portrait in London in 2016. AFP







The Outsider: how Frederick Forsyth used facts to inform his fiction

Spurning the conventional spy genre's tropes, Frederick Forsyth, a foreign correspondent for British papers, dived into his geopolitical expertise to write successful thrillers. Other writers like Truman Capote and Sunil Gangopadhyay are also well-known practitioners of 'faction'

Archisman Ghosh

The conventional spy genre's analog charm has withstood the test of time largely due to its universal entertainment value. The generous helping of hair-raising action coupled with overt acts of machismo, prevalent in novels like those of Alistair MacLean feed into a primal, adrenaline-pumped, cycle of pleasure derived from doses of violence.

Ian Fleming romanticised the genre, with James Bond conforming to a patriarchal society's constructions of ideal masculinity. But his characters also serve as vehicles of wish fulfilment and modes of deferred rebellion through their highly individualistic and anti-establishment tendencies. Conversely, in John le Carre's writing, the psychological impact of an existence defined by betrayal and confusion takes centre-stage. In his work, spectacle is replaced with characterisation, fantasy with reality, and sympathy with empathy.

Free-flowing narratives

In a genre thus alternatively populated by action and emotion, acclaimed British spy-thriller writer Frederick Forsyth's novels, much like him, identify as "the outsiders". Forsyth (1938-2025) does not resort to scenes of gaudy violence or high-octane fights, instead choosing understated motion and smooth efficiency as his tools of tension. His narratives are neither rigidly structured nor conventionally plotted, thereby imbuing them with a free-flowing, procedural linearity.

His central characters generally cannot be boxed into the good-bad dichotomy, and often behave as emblems or caricatures rather than emotional human beings who can be empathised with. In spite – and often because – of this blatant and conscious flouting of established "rules" and tropes, Forsyth's classic novels are not only critically acclaimed hallmarks of the genre, but also remain equally entertaining for the modern Hollywood action-addled reader base. Much of this enduring appeal and feeling of contemporaneity almost 60 years since their writing can be attributed to Forsyth's unique style of amalgamating a spy-thriller with a non-fiction novel.

Also referred to as "faction" – a portmanteau of the words fact and fiction – the non-fiction novel is characterised by its mode of presenting real historical events in a dramatic format. Forsyth's appropriation of faction largely adheres to a more developed style of the genre popularised by the likes of Truman Capote.

Archetypal faction novels include Capote's *In Cold Blood* (1965) and Norman Mailer's *The Executioner's Song* (1979). Forsyth, who in the 1960s worked as a journalist for *Reuters* and the *BBC* before going freelance, was not only in the epicentre of the then-rapidly emerging form of New Journalism, but also debuted as a writer with the non-fiction book *The Biafra Story* (1969) – one of the first eyewitness accounts of the war from a Biafran perspective. It thus comes as no surprise that when he turned towards fiction in order to make ends meet, Forsyth's proclivity towards the journalistic mode of writing imbued his thrillers with certain key non-fictional aspects.

Realist fiction

The Day of the Jackal (1971) opens with the dramatisation of a real-life assassination attempt on French President Charles de Gaulle by members of the OAS (Secret Army Organisation), who opposed his decision to grant freedom to Algeria. *The Odessa File* (1972) includes pages-upon-pages of information on the socio-political scenery of the world post the Third Reich's fall. The entire first act of *The Negotiator* (1989) is designed to paint an accurate and expansive picture of the geopolitical chessboard during the Gulf oil crisis, and even features real figures like Margaret Thatcher and Mikhail Gorbachev. These interludes, while language-wise dry and heavy-handed, prioritise journalistic insight and economy of words, and are purposefully designed to inform more than entertain.

Forsyth's decision to thus incorporate his intricate and accurate knowledge of the inner workings of world powers and their covert operations into his novels serves not only to add to their verisimilitude and urgency, but also allows him to treat historical events as the first domino fall – *Jackal*'s events are written as the fictional consequences of the factual failed assassination attempt.

In his historical epic *Shei Shomoy* (1983) (Those Days), Sunil Gangopadhyay tackles an issue similar to that faced by Forsyth – writing a fictional story set in a world defined by fact. Both authors end up taking similar approaches.

Gangopadhyay states in the afterword that the characters of his novel exist as emblems, meant to embody specific socio-cultural ideologies and institutions – the "protagonist" Nobinkumar is a personification of Time itself. Similarly, Forsyth deliberately crafts one-dimensional characters, whose identities are defined by what they personify. In *Jackal*, The Jackal represents the Outsider, de Gaulle the Establishment, the OAS the Opposition, and Lebel the Idealist. None of them undergo a transformation, and none of them tread a character arc.

Imperfect like life

Historical characters and events are central to both novels, with the authors deciding to conduct their stories alongside the established course of history, often intertwining but generally not contradicting it. Similarly, both Gangopadhyay and Forsyth forego adopting any codified, traditional narrative. In both novels, the authors are unafraid to depict days passing by without any significant developments.

The primary focus is always on the logical progression of events and the realistic passage of time, irrespective of the impact this has on the story beats. The original question, then, still remains – in the face of such extensive rule-breaking, why do these novels work? The answer might be simple.

It is a truth undeniable that real life rarely adheres to the rules of literature. Normal people do not become heroes following a 12-step programme. The sum of our lives does not always fit squarely into character arcs. Tragedy does not discriminate between the righteous and the flawed – it comes for everyone.

And because facts never die, Forsyth's fiction will not either.

In essence, the "imperfections" in his novels are perfected by the imperfections of our lived reality, and if there is any lesson to be learned from the width of the master's bibliography, it is that of spontaneity, motion, and enjoying the journey without worrying about its destination.

Archisman Ghosh studies English at St. Xavier's College, Kolkata

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Nelson Mandela was born on this day in 1918. A quiz on the South African leader

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1
Mandela belonged to which ethnic group in South Africa?

QUESTION 2
What is the name of the political party that he served as the president of?

QUESTION 3
What is the term used to define the separation of people into racial or other ethnic groups in daily life?

QUESTION 4
uMkhonto weSizwe was associated with Mandela. What was it?

QUESTION 5
What was the name of the trial that took place in apartheid-era South Africa between October 9, 1963 and June 12, 1964, after a group of anti-apartheid activists were arrested on Liliesleaf Farm?

QUESTION 6
What is the term used to describe a situation where specific false memories can sometimes be shared by a large group of people? Hundreds of people recorded having vivid and detailed memories of news coverage of South African anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela dying in prison in the 1980s, despite Mandela actually dying in 2013.

Visual question:
In this image, Mandela is raising his clenched fist. What is it called?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This player holds the record for most singles titles at the tournament. **Ans: Martina Navratilova, nine titles**
2. This food combination is famously associated with the tournament. **Ans: Strawberry and cream**
3. The original colour of the balls used in the tournament and the reason why it was changed to the current yellow. **Ans: White; it was difficult to spot white balls on colour television**
4. The electronic line judging aid introduced at Wimbledon in 1980. **Ans: Cyclops**
5. The spoof movie starring Andy Samberg that was partly inspired by the first-round match between John Isner and Nicolas Mahut in 2010. **Ans: *7 days in hell***
Visual: Name this bird. **Ans: Rufus the Hawk; it scares pigeons away from the courts**
Early Birds: Sukdev Shet| Tamal Biswas| Haridas Pal| Piyali Tuli| Sumana Dutta

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"Hi! What happened to you? You look like something that the cat dragged in."

"Look like something the cat dragged in! What's that supposed to mean?"

"When you say that someone looks like something the cat dragged in, it means they look very untidy or dirty. For example, after playing in the mud, the kids looked like something the cat dragged in."

"My friend Ram always looks like something that the cat dragged in."

"And you are trying to be like him, I suppose! Why do you look like something that the cat dragged in?"

"I was playing kabbadi."

"…. playing kabbadi! Don't you have a chemistry test tomorrow?"

"Yeah. I do. But I'm not too worried about it. You know why? Because I got more marks than Sujatha on last week's physics test. Isn't that great?"

"That's wonderful! But I wouldn't let that go to your head."

"Don't let that go to my head! What are you talking about?"

"What I want to say is, don't let your success make you overly proud. If success or praise 'goes to someone's head', it makes them conceited or proud."

"So the expression 'to go to someone's head' is used to show disapproval. Is that right?"

"That's right. For example, after scoring three centuries in a row, Venugopal let success go to his head and soon became a complete failure."

"That happens to a lot of people. A few years ago, my cousin came first in the university. He received a gold medal. He let that go to his head. Soon he lost all his friends."

"I guess it's only human to let success go to your head. But my father keeps warning me, 'Don't let anything go to your head.' I try to follow his advice."

"Must be difficult to follow, though."

"… I feel peckish. Do you want something?"

"You feel what?"

"P..e..c..k..i..s..h. The first syllable 'peck' rhymes with the words 'neck', 'deck' and 'check'."

"And the 'ish' in the second syllable is like the 'ish' in 'childish', 'fish' and 'wish', I suppose."

"That's right! Do you know what 'peckish' means?"

"No, I don't."

"Peckish is a word that is mostly used in British English. It is used in informal contexts. If you say you're feeling peckish, it means you are hungry. Not very hungry, but slightly hungry."

"Is it o.k. to say, I usually feel peckish around 10:30 in the evening?"

"Sounds good to me. I usually feel peckish in the afternoon."

"If I say I feel peckish, it means I'm only slightly hungry, right?"

"That's right."

"But what if I'm very hungry. I mean really hungry. What do I say then?"

"You could say a number of things. For example, you could use the word 'famish'. By the time I returned home, I was famished."

"Can I say, please give me something to eat. I'm famished?"

"You certainly can!"

Published in The Hindu on April 15, 1997.

Word of the day

Boffo:
resoundingly successful and popular

Usage: *For years, he was a boffo box office certainty.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/boffopro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /bɒfoʊ/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Disruption in power supply

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bescom has announced a scheduled disruption in power supply in several areas of city from July 18 to 20 between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m.

The affected areas include Yadavanahalli, Ichanguru, Vaddarapalya, Attibele Industrial area, Balagaranahalli, Manchanahalli, Attibele Town, Mayasandra, Dasanapura, Balluru, Kablipura, Chikkanahalli Indlabele, Harohalli, Bikkanahalli, Sollepura, Anekal Town, Kavaluhosahalli, Gowrenahalli, Haldenahalli, Hompalagatta, Choodenahalli, Honnakalashapura, Karpuru, Byagadadenahalli, Kada Agrahara, Chikkahagade, Doddhagade, Samanduru, Rachamanahalli.

THE KARUR VYSYA BANK LTD
ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH
Divisional Office Building, No.6, Shri Vasavi Temple Road, Near Sajjan Rao Circle, V V Puram, Bangalore - 560004

SALE NOTICE WITHDRAWAL

E-Auction Sale Notice published in this newspaper on **28.06.2025** pertaining to **(1) Mr. Gangarajula Venugopal** which is scheduled on **17.07.2025** stands withdrawn due to adminitrative reasons. The E-Auction sale date will be announced in due course.

Date : 17.07.2025 **Sd/- Authorized Officer**
Place: Bangalore **The Karur Vysya Bank Limited**

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. E-GSU-ELE-2025-26-OT-3
Dated : 11-07-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Name of work	Approx. Value
Electrical Arrangement for Upgradation of Shravanabelagola, Sri Sathya Sai Prasanthi Nilayam and Gubbi Railway Station Under ABSS.	Rs. 6,94,19,773.47

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 04-08-2025

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date

Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer, Gati Shakti
PUB/307/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Unit / Bengaluru**

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No.: Y/E.29/2025-26/23
Dated: 08.07.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Improvement / Enhancement of freight maintenance facilities at MNGT & HRR depots.	Rs. 47,56,749.8

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 29.07.2025

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/ General/Mysuru
PUB/298/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)
NOTIFICATION

Corrigendum to Sl. No. 1 of Notification issued vide S. O. 158(E) dated 09.01.2025
Bengaluru, 11th July 2025

S. O. 3098(E)--In the exercise of the powers conferred by clause (6) of section 20F and clause 7A of section 2 of the Railway Act, 1989 (24 of 1989) the Ministry of Railway (South Western Railway, Construction Organization, Bengaluru Cantonment) hereby authorizes the officers mentioned in column (4) of the table below as 'Competent Authority' and the officers mentioned in column (5) of the table below as 'Arbitrator' to perform the functions as such authority under the said act with effect from date of publication of this notification in the official gazette in respect of Special Railway Projects mentioned in column (2) relating to district mentioned in column (3) of the table below for public purpose of execution, maintenance, management and operation of such Special Railway Project.

TABLE

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	District	Competent Authority	Arbitrator
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1.	Construction of ROB in lieu of LC No. 97 at Srirangapatna - Pandavapura @ Ch: 121/600-700 (Kiranguru, Rampura Village).	Mandya	Assistant Commissioner, Pandavapura	Regional Commissioner, Mysuru Division, Mysuru

No. W.271/CN/BNC/2025-26/Land SRP/1727

(Pardeep Puri)
Chief Engineer-III/Construction/
South Western Railway, Bengaluru Cantonment

PUB/309/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)
NOTIFICATION

Bengaluru, 14th July 2025

S.O. 3198(E)-- In the exercise of the powers conferred by clause (6) of section 20F and clause 7A of section 2 of the Railway Act, 1989 (24 of 1989) the Ministry of Railway (South Western Railway, Construction Organization, Bengaluru Cantonment) hereby authorizes the officers mentioned in column (4) of the table below as 'Competent Authority' and the officers mentioned in column (5) of the table below as 'Arbitrator' to perform the functions as such authority under the said act with effect from date of publication of this notification in the official gazette in respect of Special Railway Projects mentioned in column (2) relating to district mentioned in column (3) of the table below for public purpose of execution, maintenance, management and operation of such Special Railway Project.

TABLE

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	District	Competent Authority	Arbitrator
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1.	Construction of Road Over Bridge for Elimination of LC No. 55 at km: 59/700-800 between Akkihebbalu - Mandagere.	Mandya	Special Land Acquisition Officer, Mandya	Regional Commissioner, Mysuru Division, Mysuru
2.	Construction of Road Over Bridge for Elimination of LC No. 68 at km: 74/000-100 between Mandagere - Holenarsipura.	Hassan	Assistant Commissioner, Hassan Sub-Division, Hassan	
3.	Construction of Road Over Bridge and Limited Height Subway in lieu of LC No. 123 at km: 205/200-300 between Kadur Jn. - Birur Jn.	Chikmagalur	Assistant Commissioner, Kadur Sub-Division, Chikmagalur	
4.	Sravanur, Provision of new crossing station at Sravanur at km: 75/345 between Mandagere & Holenarsipura stations on Mysore - Hassan line.	Hassan	Special Land Acquisition Officer, Hemavathi River Project, Hassan	
5.	Chamarajanagar station Yard Remodelling with two additional loop lines, watering and PFTR facilities.	Chamarajnagar	Assistant Commissioner, Chamarajanagar Sub-Division, Chamarajanagar	
6.	Kavalande, New crossing station at Kavalande at km: 39/400 between Nanjangud and Chamarajanagara.	Mysuru	Assistant Commissioner, Mysuru Sub-Division, Mysuru	

No. W.271/CN/BNC/2025-26/Land SRP/1727

(Pardeep Puri)
Chief Engineer-III/Construction/
South Western Railway, Bengaluru Cantonment

PUB/308/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that my client intends to purchase the below mentioned Schedule properties from its owner **Mr. Arshad Ali Khan** R/a: #217, Kirugavalu, Malavalli, Mandya District, Karnataka State-571424 **& Mr.Zakriya Khan** R/a #244, Roshan Chawk, Kirugavalu, Malavalli, Mandya District, Karnataka State- 571424,**both sons of Mr. Hayath Khan Saheb**, who claims that they have been in continuous possession & enjoyment thereof as its sole & absolute owners.

The members of public are hereby notified that if any person/s were to have any rights, claims, interests, dispute, title & possession whatso ever over the schedule properties herein or the portion thereof, all such persons shall lodge their claims with supporting documents within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice

In the event of no tenable objection/s are received with supporting documents in accordance with law within the said time our client will be proceeding with the intended sale transaction of the schedule properties. Any or all claims received on or after the said period shall not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

ITEM No.1

All that piece & parcel of Industrially Converted land comprising in Sy. Nos. 102/1(1acre& 34 guntas), Sy.No.102/4 (20 guntas), Sy.No.106/1 (2 acres & 4 Guntas), in totally measuring 4 acres 18 guntas, situated at Sindhuvallipura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nanjanagudu Taluk, Mysore District & bounded on the **East by: Sy.No.101,101/8 & Stream West by:Road, North by: Sy.No.105/3 &103/3, South by:Sy. No.106/4& 102/2.**

ITEM No. 2

All that piece & parcel of agricultural land bearing Sy No. of 106/4 measuring 20 guntas, situated at Sindhuvallipura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nanjanagudu Taluk, Mysore District, & bounded on the- **East by:Sy No. 102/4, West by:Road, North by:Sy No. 106/1, South by: Sy No. 106/2.**

ADVOCATE- G.R.ANANTHARAM
#87(old), New #13, 5th Main, N.R.Colony, Bangalore-560019,
 # (M)-9845190949/ 9448281647,
Email: anantharam.gr@gmail.com
Date: 18-07-2025, Bangalore

Canara Bank
A Government of India Undertaking
ARM– II Branch, 2nd Floor, Circle Office, Spencer Towers, No.86, M G Road, Bengaluru-560001.
Telephone numbers 080-25310099, 080-25310181, E-mail: cb6298@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
(Under Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the **ARM - II Branch, Bangalore of Canara Bank,** the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM - II Branch, Bangalore** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** basis for recovery of outstanding dues from below mentioned Borrowers. The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit is mentioned below.

Sl. No.	Borrower Name/ Description of the movable / immovable assets:	Total Liabilities as per Sale Notice	Description of machines	Auction Date & Time	Reserve Price & EMD	1) Incremental value at the Bid
1	**(1) M/s Shine Plast,** No.82, Risaldar street, 2nd cross, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru-560020 **(2) Mr. Mohammed Ashraf T M,** No.17, Risaldar street Park Road, 2nd cross, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru - 560020	**Rs. 5,93,68,868.30/- (Rupees Five Crores Ninety Three lakhs Sixty Eight thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Eight and Thirty Paisa Only) as on 15.07.2025 plus further interest and charges thereon.**	**(1)** Semi finished goods and accessories zips, buttons, threads etc kept in bundles in plastic bags approx. 60 bags as per valuation report. **(2)** Tools box with spares **(3)** Master cutting table with cutting machine **(4)** Stiching machines without head(kept aside) **(5)** T V 15 inch **(6)** Stiching machines JACK Juki without motors **(7)** Khaja machine **(8)** Button Machine **(9)** HemmingMachine **(10)** Punching Machine	**06.08.2025 from 1:00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m**	**Rs. Rs.332500/- EMD: Rs.33,250/- on or before 05.08.2025**	**Rs. 20,000/-**

OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS : (a) The Movables Items (Hypothecated assets) will not be sold below the Reserve Price. **(b)** Auction/ bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website of website M/s PSB Alliance Pvt Ltd (BAANKNET). Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings. **(c)** The property/ Hypothecated assets can be inspected on **01.08.2025** or with the consent of Authorised Officer on any working day. **(d)** Auction would commence at Reserve Price, as mentioned above. Bidders shall improve their offers in multiples of **Rs.20,000.00** as incremental value. The bidder who submits the highest bid (above the Reserve price) on closure of 'Online' auction shall be declared as successful bidder. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor. **(e)** Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited in E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (BAANKNET) portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan "on or before **05.08.2025. (f)** The successful bidder shall deposit 25 % of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on the sale being knocked down in his/ her favour and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. If the successful bidder fails to pay the sale price as stated above, the deposit made by him shall be forfeited. **(g)** Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor. **(h)** Remaining amount of bids is to be deposited through RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer to credit of account "CANARA BANK ARM BRANCH II, BENGALURU" A/c No. 209272434; IFSC Code: CNRB0006298. **(i)** EMD deposited by the unsuccessful bidder shall be refunded to them. The EMD shall not carry any interest. **(j)** All charges for conveyance, stamp duty/GST registration charges etc., as applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder only. **(k)** The Auction Sale is conducted on "As is where is, As is what is and Whatever there is" Basis. Bank is not aware of any pending charges, taxes, etc. Purchasers are bound to verify the same and, if any, have to bear the same. **(l)** Authorised Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof. **(m)** Authorised Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of auction without assigning any reason thereof.

For further details contact Authorised Officer, Canara Bank, ARM II Branch For further details contact Chandrasekhar Yadav, Chief Manager, Canara Bank , ARM Branch-2- (9113092975, 8921102717, 9993777728, 9483544116, 8709675503 and 080-25310181) e-mail id – cb6298@canarabank.com OR the service provider M/s.PSB Alliance(BAANKNET) E-mail: support.BAANKNET@psballiance.com.

Date : 16.07.2025 **Sd/- Authorised officer**
Place: Bangalore **Canara Bank**

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
Syndicate
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office : Bangalore

E-AUCTION Sale of Properties on 07.08.2025
Last date of EMD : 06.08.2025

ARM – 2 Branch, 2nd Floor, No. 86, Spencers Tower, M.g. Road, Bangalore – 560001. Ph No. : 080 25310099. E-Mail – cb6298@canarabank.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described imovable propeties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM Branch-2,** Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **07.08.2025 at 1:00 PM to 3:00PM,** through E-Auction under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

For details with regard to E-Auction & digital signature please contact the service provider **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited, Helpdesk Number : 8291220220, Website: https://baanknet.com/**

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **06.08.2025 .**

(Rs. in lacs)

Sl.No.	Name and address of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Description of the immovable assets	Total Dues Possession Type	a. Reserve Price b. EMD c. Incremental Bid
1.	**1.M/s Mallella Infrastructure Private Limited through Its Director Sri M Pawan Kumar,Smt M Latha Preeti and Sri K Charan Kumar** **Regd Office:** No 540, 17th Main 4th Sector, HSR Layout, Bengaluru-560 102 **2.Sri M Pawan Kumar, S/o Sri M Nagireddy 3.Smt M Latha Preeti, W/o Sri M Pawan Kumar** **No.2 & 3 are residing at:**No.307/7, 23rd Cross, 6th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560070 **4.Sri K Charan Kumar, S/o and C/o Sri Reddeppa Reddy,** No.54 Ground Floor, UAS Layout 8th Cross RMV 2nd Stage, Sanjaynagar, Bangalore North,PO: RMV Extension II Stage, Bangalore-560 094	All that piece and parcel of the Property residential Site No.249, erstwhile Begur Village PanchayathKhatha No.766/A, carved on residential converted land bearing Sy.No. 396 (New No. 396/1), converted under Official Memorandum bearing No. Dis.ALN.SR.(S) 128/85-86, dated 19.9.1985, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore, comprised in the comprehensive residential layout known as "Vishwapriya Greeneries", presently under the administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore MahanagaraPalike (BBMP), Begur Ward No. 192, bearing Khatha No.1498/249, situated Begur Village, BegurHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, Bangalore, including all rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto, measuring East to West 70 feet and North to South 95 feet, in all measuring 6650 sq. ft., and bounded on the:**East by** : Site No.250,**West by:** Site No.248,**North by** : Site No. 246,**South by**:	**Rs. 49,91,08,632.24₹** as on **15.07.2025** plus further interest and cost thereon	**a) ₹ 1,65,58,000/- b) ₹ 16,55,800/- c) ₹ 1,00,000/-**
		All that piece and parcel of the Property residential Site No.248, erstwhile Begur Village PanchayathKhatha No.766/A, carved on residential converted land bearing Sy.No. 396 (New No.396/1), converted under Official Memorandum bearing No. Dis.ALN.SR.(S) 128/85-86, dated 19.9.1985, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore, comprised in the comprehensive residential layout known as "Vishwapriya Greeneries", presently under the administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore MahanagaraPalike (BBMP), Begur Ward No. 192, bearing Khatha No.1500/248, situated Begur Village, BegurHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, Bangalore, including all rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto, measuring East to West 60 feet and North to South 95 feet, in all measuring 5700 sq. ft., and bounded on the:**East by :** Site No.249, **West by:**Private Property,**North by:**Site No. 247, **South by:** Road.		**a) ₹ 1,41,93,000/- b) ₹ 14,19,300/- c) ₹ 1,00,000/-**
		All that piece and parcel of the Property residential Site No.121, BBMP Khatha No.1803/121. New PID NO.192-W1298-50, (erstwhile Begur Village PanchayathKhatha No.1019-1181-766/A-1026/1184, measuring East to West 100 feet, and North to South 60 feet, in all measuring 6000 sq.ft., carved on residential converted land bearing Sy.No.114, (converted vide official memorandum bearing No.B.DIS.ALN.SR(S)581/82-83, dated 25.1.1982, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore), comprised in the comprehensive residential layout known as "Vishwapriya Greeneries", presently under the administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore MahanagaraPalike Ward No.192-Begur, situated at Begur village, BegurHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, including all rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto and bounded on the:**East by:**Site No.120,**West by:**Road, **North by:** Site No. 122,**South by:** Road.		**a) ₹ 1,44,45,000/- b) ₹ 14,44,500/- c) ₹ 1,00,000/-**
		All that piece and parcel of the Property residential Site No.77, BBMP Khatha No.1343/77, New PID No.192-W0422-10, (erstwhile Begur Village PanchayathKhatha No.1025-1183/1026-1184/766/C), measuring East to West 100 feet, North to South 60 feet, in all measuring 6,000 square feet, carved on residentially converted lands bearing Sy.No. 142, 143/1 and Sy.No.143/2, comprised in the comprehensive residential layout known as "Vishwapriya Greeneries", presently under the administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore MahanagaraPalike (BBMP), Begur Ward No. 192, situated Begur Village, BegurHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, Bangalore, including all rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto, and bounded on the **East by:**Site No.52,**West by:** Road, **North by:** Site No. 78A,**South by:** Site No.76		**a) ₹ 1,35,00,000/- b) ₹ 13,50,500/- c) ₹ 1,00,000/-**
		Item No.1. All that piece and parcel of the Property residential Site No.182, bearing BBMP Khatha No.3315/117/7/182, situated in the layout known as"VISWAPRIYA GREENERIES", formed in the land converted land bearing Sy.No.117/7 ofBegur Village, BegurHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, (converted for residential purposes vide official Memorandum bearing No.BDIS.ALN.SR(S)154/81-82, dated 31.8.1981, by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District), measuring East to West 100 feet, North to South 38 feet, in all measuring 3800 square feet, presently within BBMP Begur Ward No.192, and bounded on the:**East by:**Site No.179,**West by :**Road,**North by:**Site No. 183,**South by**: Site No.181. **Item No.2.**All that piece and parcel of the Property residential Site No.179, bearing BBMP Khatha No.3316/117/7/182, situated in the layout known as"VISWAPRIYA GREENERIES", formed in the land converted land bearing Sy.No.117/7 ofBegur Village, BegurHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, (converted for residential purposes vide official Memorandum bearing No.BDIS.ALN.SR(S)154/81-82, dated 31.8.1981, by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District), measuring East to West 100 feet, North to South 38 feet, in all measuring 3800 square feet, presently within BBMP Begur Ward No.192, and bounded on the:**East by :**Road,**West by**:Site No.182,**North by:**Site No. 178,**South by**:Site No.180.		**a) ₹ 1,62,09,000/- b) ₹ 16,20,900/- c) ₹ 1,00,000/-**
		All that piece and parcel of the Property residential Site No.201, formed in Converted Sy. No. 113, (converted for residential purposes under official memorandum No. ALN:SR(S)270/80-81, dated 05-09-1980, issued by the special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Urban Dist. Bangalore) Presently bearing BBMP Khatha No. 290/201, situated at Begur village, BegurHobli, Bangalore, South Taluk, Presently within BBMP Begur, Ward No. 192, measuring East to West 120 feet and North to south 60 feet, and bounded on the:**East by** :Basapura Village,**West by**: Road, **North by**: Site No. 202, (Land Locked)		**a) ₹ 64,15,000/- b) ₹ 6,41,500/- c) ₹ 1,00,000/-**
		All that piece and parcel of the Property residential Site No.202, formed in Converted Sy. No. 113, (converted for residential purposes under official memorandum No. ALN:SR(S)270/80-81, dated 05-09-1980, issued by the special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Urban Dist. Bangalore) Presently bearing BBMP Khatha No. 291/202, situated at Begur village, BegurHobli, Bangalore, South Taluk, Presently within BBMP Begur, Ward No. 192, measuring East to West 120 feet and North to south 60 feet, and bounded on the:**East by** :Basapura Village,**West: by:** Road, **North by :** Site No. 203,**South by:** Site No. 201. (Land Locked)		**a) ₹ 64,15,000/- b) ₹ 6,41,500/- c) ₹ 1,00,000/-**
		All that piece and parcel of the Property residential Site No.203, formed in Converted Sy. No. 113, (converted for residential purposes under official memorandum No. ALN:SR(S)270/80-81, dated 05-09-1980, issued by the special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Urban Dist. Bangalore) Presently bearing BBMP Khatha No. 633/203, situated at Begur village, BegurHobli, Bangalore, South Taluk, Presently within BBMP Begur, Ward No. 192, measuring East to West 120 feet and North to south 60 feet, and bounded on the:**East by** :Basapura Village,**West by:** Road, **North by :** Site No. 204,**South by:** Site No. 202. (Land Locked)		**a) ₹ 62,30,000/- b) ₹ 6,23,000/- c) ₹ 1,00,000/-**

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
Fordetailedtermsandconditionsofthesale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.canarabank.com/english/announcements/sale-notice/karnataka/ provided on the Secured Creditors' Website i.e www.canarabank.com. or may contact Chief Manager, ARM Branch II Bangalore, Canara Bank, Ph. No.,9113092975, 8921102717, 9993777728, 9483544116, 8709675503 and 080-25310181, during office hours on any working day.

Place: Bangalore **Sd/- Authorized Officer,**
Date : 17.07.2025 **Canara Bank**

M BG-BGE

City and the river: The Arkavati entering Thippagondanahalli reservoir on the outskirts of Bengaluru. Once the primary source of drinking water for the city — from 1936 to 2000, according to the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board — the river is today a shadow of its former glorious self. PHOTOS: K. MURALI KUMAR

Revival bid: In June 2025, the Karnataka government announced a high-level committee of experts to spearhead the rejuvenation of the Arkavati through a public-private partnership model.

Polluted: According to a BWSSB document, once the river crosses Doddaballapur town, Arkavati is in 'a highly stressed state due to pollution from rapid urbanisation and industrialisation'.

Bringing a 'ghost river' back to life

The Karnataka government has announced its ambitious plan to bring the Arkavati back to life, but people living close to the river have little hope, while experts point out to many challenges, writes **K.C. Deepika**

As the clouds play hide-and-seek and the sun beats down in mid-July, in what has been a dry southwest monsoon for Bengaluru thus far, waters of the Arkavati river, unsettlingly black, flows its course on the outskirts of the city.

Jayaram, 60, a resident of Jogerahalli, close to the Thippagondanahalli (T.G. Halli) reservoir, is walking around in the quaint village as devotional songs play out of a speaker from a nearby temple. Two class 5 students of a government school hang around him as he tells *The Hindu*, "Until a few years ago, we used to wash clothes in the river. They started letting polluted water in from everywhere. What flows now is acid water. We cannot even step into it. There is an odour and froth. Some are brave enough to use it for agriculture."

He recalled that, when he was around 30 years old, he would drink water from the river and wash clothes in it. "When it rains, we see some clean water briefly, and then the black water comes again. The water is of no use to anyone, not even to animals," he says.

The BWSSB is building a 20 MLD-capacity sewage treatment plant and water treatment plant at the T.G. Halli reservoir. K. MURALI KUMAR

Ballyamma, 60, at the nearby Varthur Narasimhapura, was watching over her grazing goats close to a pumping station. "I came here after getting married 40 years ago, and I remember we used to drink this water and cook with it. It has been at least 15 years since we stopped using it. It smells," she says, adding that they use borewell water for their daily needs.

Once the primary source of drinking water for Bengaluru – from 1936 to 2000, according to the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) – the Arkavati is today what one research called "a ghost river", a shadow of its former glorious self.

Immense potential

Over two-and-a-half decades later, in June 2025, the Karnataka government announced a high-level committee of experts to spearhead the rejuvenation of the Arkavati through a public-private partnership (PPP) model. The BWSSB, while announcing the plan, said, "Stretching 53 km from Nandi Hills to T.G. Halli, and covering a basin area of 1,400 sq. km, the Arkavati holds immense potential to be reborn as a sustainable lifeline."

BWSSB Chairman Ram Prasath Manohar, while announcing the plan, said water from the Yettinahole project (which envisages the diversion of west-flowing river water to meet the drinking water needs of seven parched districts in the south Karnataka region) was intended to mix with the Arkavati waters at T.G. Halli, but rapid industrial growth, wastewater discharge, and environmental degradation rendered the reservoir's water unfit for consumption. While admitting that only 15% of the Arkavati's river basin falls under the BWSSB's jurisdiction, he also said that several government agencies, NGOs, and civic bodies were coming together to shape a comprehensive action plan. The BWSSB also announced that Infrastructure Development Corporation (Karnataka) Ltd. has already begun an integrated study covering areas such as Hesaraghatta, Madanayakanahalli, and parts of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), laying the groundwork for rejuvenation.

> If we truly wish to rejuvenate the Arkavati, we must also protect its catchment area. It feels deeply counter-intuitive when, on the one hand, committees are set up to revive the river, yet on the other, the government proposes to dilute its buffer zones and weaken the T.G. Halli preservation notification.
>
> **KHUSHBU K. BIRAWAT,** Paani.Earth

Stakeholder meeting

According to a BWSSB document on the 'Rejuvenation of Arkavathy River up to T.G. Halli', from the origin of the river at Nandi Hills, till Doddaballapur town, the stream is less polluted, barring drain water entry and dumping of solid waste.

"Municipal sewage from Doddaballapur town enters into the Nagara Kere (lake) and polluted industrial wastewater enters from Bashettyhalli Industrial Area at Veerapur into the river," says the document, adding that once the river crosses Doddaballapur town and enters Bengaluru Rural, the river is in "a highly stressed state due to pollution from rapid urbanisation and industrialisation".

The document also acknowledges that as the river traverses, it accumulates various pollutants, including untreated sewage and industrial waste, leading to poor water quality in T.G. Halli, and that the water is not useful for drinking or any other domestic purposes.

The BWSSB has planned to take up the rejuvenation of the Arkavati from Nandi hills to T.G. Halli (54 km) "to make the river pollution-free".

The document lists views and recommendations from multiple stakeholders of the river, one of which is the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), as the Dr. Shivaram Karanth Layout is in the Arkavati catchment area. "It is necessary to know the disposal scheme of the wastewater generated from the layouts developed by the BDA in the Bengaluru region," it says.

Questionable policy decisions

But is it going to be possible? Experts who have conducted studies on the river say it is not going to be easy. Sharachchandra Lele, Distinguished Fellow in Environmental Policy and Governance, Centre for Environment and Development, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, says "rejuvenation" is a tricky concept.

"If it means the natural flow should come back, that will require major changes in groundwater use in the upstream, which looks very difficult. If it means making the river flow 'anyhow', then the idea of putting Yettinahole water into T.G. Halli will make it look like the Arkavati has been 'rejuvenated', but will it really solve any problem? We must also ask, 'rejuvenation for whom?' Do we want the Arkavati to be a 'boating place' or a 'scenic riverside' for urban folks, or a source of water and cultural value for agricultural households?" he asks.

In a study published in January 2013, titled 'Water management in Arkavathy basin: A situation analysis', of which Lele was one of the authors, it was stated that the decline of the Arkavati's flow into T.G. Halli reservoir was directly caused by the expansion of eucalyptus cultivation and increased groundwater pumping in the T.G. Halli catchment area. "It has been aggravated by the construction of an excessive number of check dams and other structures on the various streams that feed the Arkavati, which resulted in further reductions in surface flows, but did not augment baseflows as the groundwater withdrawal remained unregulated," explains Lele. The changes in cropping, such as the growth of eucalyptus and shift to groundwater-irrigated horticulture and vegetable farming, are the result of government incentives, as well as market pressures (rising demand from Bengaluru), and also the result of changing labour availability as labour migrated to Bengaluru, he says.

Arkavati river

- Originates at Nandi Hills in Chickballapur district
- Joins the Cauvery at Sangama in Bengaluru South (formerly Ramanagara) district
- Length of the river: 170 km

It traverses through four districts

- Chickballapur, Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru Urban, and Bengaluru South

It has three tributaries

- Kumudavati, Suvarnamukhi, Vrishabhavati

Source: BWSSB

"While many of the changes are expected in an area close to a city, lack of a governance mechanism around groundwater and, in fact, around integrated management of water resources as a whole is the key missing policy piece. The benefits of groundwater over-exploitation have gone disproportionately to the rich farmers, as poorer farmers could not afford to dig borewells, or abandoned them after they failed, as groundwater levels dropped," he says, adding that the State agency in charge of T.G. Halli reservoir (the BWSSB) lost interest in the inflow decline problem, because it shifted to the Cauvery as the only source that they think will serve all of Bengaluru's water needs.

Results of pollution testing

A more recent report, 'Uncovering the hidden pollution in the Arkavathi - Emerging contaminants impacting Bengaluru & beyond,' summarises the results of pollution testing along the river conducted by Paani.Earth, in collaboration with the International Centre for Clean Water, IIT Madras, in February and March 2024. Paani tested samples for 65 unique water and 20 unique sediment pollution parameters and compared the testing results to national and international standards and guidelines for freshwater and sediment pollution.

The report states that every single test site exhibited pollution values above national and international standards and guidelines. "Even remote areas with no visible pollution had high levels of persistent pollutants, highlighting the river's vulnerability to long-range contamination. Across test sites, Paani observed notable spikes in pollution levels, frequently downstream of industrial areas or other zones with known pollution discharges. Additionally, the results demonstrated that high levels of pollutants from Urban Bengaluru enter the Arkavati via the Vrishabhavati and degrade water quality. Many of the river sites had high phosphorus levels, causing eutrophication," states the report.

"Currently, our rivers are graded A to E based on just a handful of parameters like pH, dissolved oxygen, coliform bacteria, and a few others to decide if the water is 'fit' for drinking, bathing, irrigation, or industrial use. But these grades don't take into account many persistent and harmful chemicals that remain in the water and soil. As a result, water can still be carrying dangerous contaminants like hexavalent chromium and yet be reported as 'safe for irrigation' just because it meets those limited criteria," says Madhuri Mandava, who, along with Khushbu K. Birawat, both from Paani, accompanied *The Hindu* on the site visit to the Arkavati.

She adds that the instruments used are not sensitive enough to pick up dangerous chemicals in lower concentrations, which means harmful contamination can go completely unnoticed and unreported, while the same water continues to irrigate the food we eat.

First things first

Lele says it is unlikely that the river will ever flow again "as it did in the past", and that this "past flowing river" itself is a myth.

"We must remember that even 200 years ago, there were probably 400 irrigation tanks blocking streams in the T.G. Halli catchment and that water was used to cultivate sugarcane or paddy. It is best to aim for sustainable and equitable water use in the T.G. Halli catchment and avert water pollution in the reservoir, because the Kumudavati is still contributing inflow. Bengalureans really do not stand to benefit from its rejuvenation, unless the idea is for T.G. Halli dam to start supplying water again, which seems very unlikely," he says.

Birawat is more optimistic. "The first step to healing our rivers is to see what is really hurting them and identify the sources. The Central Pollution Control Board's 2017 guidelines for water quality monitoring laid out a robust framework to help understand pollution sources, trends, and the effectiveness of control measures. But on the ground, implementation by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board falls short of this intent. Monitoring has been reduced to a simplistic grading exercise, with little evidence of meaningful classification of stations or comprehensive testing. As a result, the programme fails to guide corrective action or improve water quality, and risks, leaving the most critical pollution sources unaddressed," she says.

She also says no matter how much we clean the Arkavati, it will not make a real difference if the Vrishabhavati keeps pouring pollution into it.

A river, she points out, is just not water; it is a living ecosystem. "A river is so much more than just a line of water between two banks. It reflects everything around it – the forests, the lakes, the built-up areas, the storm-water drains, the floodplains, the fields, the hills, and the aquifers underground. It does feel too little and too late, when you see the pathetic state of the river, but better late than never. If we truly wish to rejuvenate the Arkavati, we must also protect its catchment. It feels deeply counter-intuitive when, on one hand, committees are set up to revive the river, yet on the other, the government proposes to dilute its buffer zones and weaken the T.G. Halli preservation notification," she adds.

Kevin Oliver brings *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* back to Bengaluru after a hiatus of three decades

Many splendoured thing

Dreaming in song
Kevin Oliver (centre) and cast members.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

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Music and passion are always in fashion – add a touch of couture to the proceedings and you are bound to have a stunner. Kevin Oliver had staged *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* 30 years ago in Bengaluru when he was a music teacher at Frank Anthony Public School. Now, he is bringing it back bigger and better than ever before.

"I've always wanted to bring out my version of this musical. There's nothing more challenging than taking a piece that has been so overused and transforming it completely," says Kevin.

Well, the upcoming musical has certainly piqued interest with news of its 100-strong, all-male choir ("Potiphar's wife is the only female part," adds Kevin) and its spectacular dreamcoat doing the rounds.

Written by Andrew Lloyd Webber with lyrics by Tim Rice, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* was first produced as a musical in 1972, and went on to become one of the most popular pieces to be staged, adapted and reimagined.

Back to the beginning

"Bangalore", as Kevin remembers it, "used to be a city of music and art" and he was quite active on its cultural scene. "I studied under Savitha Yates (a popular theatre personality in Bengaluru during the '80s) who advised me to try every genre of theatre, before going into musicals." The training has held him in good stead.

And train he did. Apart from music, which he was always passionate about, Kevin combined his background of theatre and dance with choreography and fashion. Soon, Dubai came calling and though he was heading a music school there and staging productions, it was also where he got a chance to hone his fashion skills.

"I've worked with some amazing designers there such as Valentino, Dolce & Gabbana and Louis Vuitton, dressing the likes of Hugh Jackman, Rihanna, Lady Gaga and Andreas Bocelli, among others," says Kevin. However, he adds, "One of the most ambitious and beautiful things I created was a 1,000-strong, girls choir which went viral for their performance of AR Rahman's *Vande Mataram*."

Home again

Kevin says despite being away from Bengaluru, he always felt the need to give back to the community that gave him his start. "I roped in Oum Pradutt, a former student of mine, and this collaboration fell into place."

"I had left Bengaluru 35 years ago and wasn't sure if singers of today would even want to be a part of this musical, but I had to try. Then, at the audition as many as 450 people turned up and though they were all wonderful, I had to choose 100 for the cast."

"We've got a range of voices – from a bass to a countertenor – literally every sound you can get with singers aged between 16 and 60."

Apart from having an all-male cast, Kevin's *Joseph* stands out for having with nine narrators, instead of a single female voice as in the original. And of course, the dreamcoat which has generated quite a buzz.

"Two of my friends from Dubai, who've done amazing work in the field of fashion, lent me garments that suited the characters. The dreamcoat, designed by Michael Cinco and Furne One Amato, weighs over 21 kilograms. It is made with different fabrics and covered with Swarovski crystals. It's like a chandelier on a guy's back."

Kevin says he is doubtful whether the likes of Broadway or West End have done something as elaborate and fashion conscious as his reimagining of *Joseph*. "I'm hoping people love it as much as I do," he says, even as he admits the creation is what his mind's eye had conjured up as Joseph's coat of many colours,

Full circle

And Oum Pradutt, the former student Kevin roped in? As a schoolboy in Frank Anthony's, he played a part in *Catch*, a musical Kevin had presented. "I had no idea about musicals at the time, but auditioned all the same. Kevin thought I was a better dancer than a singer," laughs Oum.

As part of the main cast, Oum performed in a string of shows in Mumbai too, and was again cast as a dancer in *Joseph* when it was produced. "It was an incredible experience to gain such an exposure at that age, and at a time when engineering and medicine were considered the only avenues for a career."

Oum says the experience also gave him a chance to observe Kevin and his style of working at close quarters. "He would not only look at the costumes, makeup, music and choreography personally, but also be involved in areas such as prompts, props, light and design. It was amazing to see what happened on stage and behind the scenes. That stayed with me for the longest time."

Oum went on to found Phase I in 1995, blending his corporate expertise with his passion for the creative arts and entertainment. "I credit the existence of my company, now in its 30th year to Kevin's musicals, so I was truly glad of the chance to collaborate with him on *Joseph*."

"We both saw this as a chance to give back to this city," says Oum, adding that though there are a lot of events taking place in Bengaluru, musicals are quite rare.

Going by his own lived experience, Oum and Phase I are ensuring school children will get a chance to witness the magic of a musical with discounted tickets. "In other parts of the world, schools send their students to such events, providing them with experiential learning rather a textbook one. We are also bringing students from the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society (KREIS) to watch the show for free," he says, adding theirs is a cause close to his heart.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat will be staged at Good Shepherd Auditorium on July 18 and 19. Tickets from ₹999 on bookmyshow.

Friends who run: The four runners featured in the film; filmmaker Basav Biradar
BASAV BIRADAR AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

City run

Basav Biradar's latest film, *One Foot In Front Of The Other*, chronicles the journey of four runners who decide to run from Bengaluru to Chennai

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Basav Biradar says his new film, *One Foot In Front Of The Other*, which chronicles the journey of four runners who decide to run from Bengaluru to Chennai along the highway, is a political act. "There is a lot of individuality when people speak of ultra-running, including the loneliness of the long-distance runner and other clichés." And yet, what struck him about the people featured in the film – Chandra Gopalan, Manikandan Seran, Krishan Dhall and Santhosh Padmanabhan, was that "they see it as a community activity."

Unlike traditional marathoners, who train with particular races and outcomes in mind, these four runners, Basav says, did not have any such goal. "In the hypercapitalist world we live in, I found it interesting," says the Bengaluru-based writer, filmmaker and researcher. "They are not overselling individual achievements or looking at material gain, but as a lifestyle that brings people together."

The film, which will preview this Sunday, both documents the actual run as well as offers insights into who the runners are as people and what motivates them to pound the pavement."I didn't want the film to look like a sporty, running film, but hope it brings back the idea of regular people doing this sort of thing," he says.

One Foot In Front Of The Other will be screened on July 20, 5pm at Sabhablr, Shivaji Nagar. Tickets, priced at ₹300, can be purchased at www.sabhablr.in

Vinyl dreams and nostalgia

A listening room caught between the reverent hush of Japanese jazz *kissas* and the raucous singalong spirit of old Bengaluru makes for a contrarian experience

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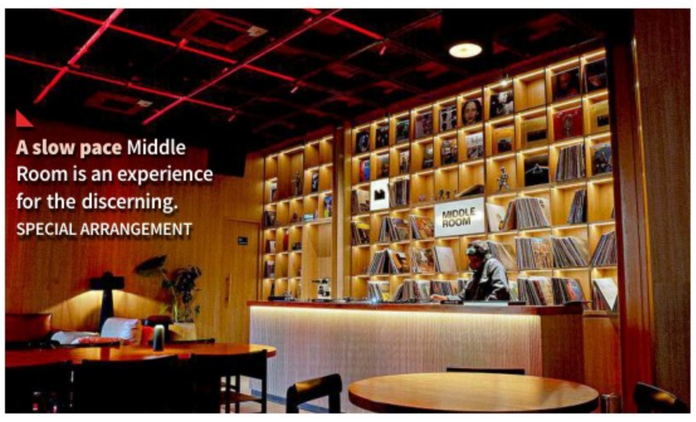
Oasis' 'Don't Look Back in Anger', which could well be July's theme song, what with the fractious Gallagher brothers burying the hatchet for an epic concert tour, washes over the Middle Room. The swish listening room recently opened at Courtyard, that meeting ground of ideas and experiences on Double Road in Bengaluru.

The brainchild of Akhila Srinivas, the force behind Courtyard, Middle Room draws inspiration from audiophile bars around the world, which in turn take their inspiration from Japanese jazz kissas where music was not in the background but front and centre.



A slow pace Middle Room is an experience for the discerning.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Akhila, a true-blue Bangalorean, says she wanted to bring back the vibe of old Bengaluru's pubs where rock music, raucous sing-alongs and beer drove the party. While that sense of community and writing song requests on tatty napkins does not perfectly align with the hushed reverence of jazz *kissas* and the ₹500 listening fee, one can perhaps give the Middle Room a chance to find its groove within these parallel tracks.

The intimate space seats 33 and operates on a time-slot booking system. We chose the 6.30 pm slot and thanks to Bengaluru's legendary traffic, staggered in by 7 pm. There are some cons to being in the middle of everything, which is what gave the listening room its name according to Akhila.

Wood and red accents lend the Middle Room a warm yet edgy aesthetic. The fact that music is the heart of the Middle Room is underlined by the sleek turntable (Technics Sl 1200 mk7 from Tokyo) and a wall of vinyl of over a 1,000 LPs.

Sandeep Raman, from the erstwhile Record Room, presides over the records and some cassettes, playing marvellous jazz records that immediately transport you to neon-lit smoky alleys, and a slinky pair of stockinged legs unwinding from a muscle car to a wailing sax.

Murthovic, music producer and DJ, who has burnt the floor in India (Echoes Of Earth, Satellite Beachside, NH7 Weekender) and abroad, and artist and creative director, Avinash, travelled the world and the seven seas, to build up the vinyl library, the equipment and acoustics. While music is the food of love at Middle Room, there is a short selection of small and large plates courtesy of Chef Adithya Kidambi.

The drinks are shepherded by the grace of bar demon, Arijit Bose. While the drinks menu is beer forward, I choose to be contrary and go for Prosecco.

Oh and even though Middle Room does not take requests, Sandeep was kind enough to play 'Dont Look Back in Anger,' and in place of a rowdy singalong, we quietly mouthed, 'Please don't put your life in the hands/ Of a rock 'n' roll band/ Who'll throw it all away...

Middle Room is open from Tuesday to Sunday. Log on to https://urbanaut.app/spot/middle-room to book your spot

STEPOUT

Book talk
Ponnu Elizabeth Mathew, author of *The Remnants of Rebellion*, set in the rubber plantations of Kerala, will be discussing her debut novel with journalist Ammu Joseph. *At Atta Galatta on July 26 at 6pm. Entry is free and all are welcome.*

Silk stories
The Silkworm Boutique, will hold their annual exhibition, featuring pure natural yarn and handwoven saris from all over the country. *At The Hatworks Boulevard, Cunningham Road, July 18- 20, from 11 am to 7 pm. Entry is free and all are welcome.*

Handloom is here
An exclusive sale of handlooms, handicrafts, jewellery, sarees, clothing accessories, khadi wear, suit pieces and home accessories, sourced from rural artisans from the eastern parts of India, will be held in the city. *At White House, HSR Layout from July 22 to 29, from 10.30 am to 9 pm. Entry is free and all are welcome.*

Lack of regulation at stadium gates led to stampede: D'Cunha panel

Commission recommends that stadium authorities relocate events expected to see large crowds to other locations

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The commission headed retired High Court judge Michael D'Cunha that probed the stampede at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium that killed 11 and left 71 injured on June 4, has held "not regulating the entry into the gates and making reckless announcements with regard to the entry into the stadium" as the "root cause for the stampede and the consequent death and injuries".

"This situation was created by the organisers themselves due to the lack of preparation and hasty decision, which tantamount to recklessness bordering or grass negligence, for which the organisers should be made accountable," the report said.

"A huge crowd had gathered at the venue in response to the post made by RCB on its official social media handle by way of two posts at 7.01 a.m. and 8 a.m. Though the general public were invited for the proposed event in large numbers, the details as to the manner of entry to the stadium was not specified even after the crowd surged at the stadium, and the crowd was not directed to the respective gates," the report said.

Probe report: Royal Challengers Bengaluru fans who had gathered outside the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on June 4.

"The absence of coordinated messaging and reliable updates prevented effective crowd management and contributed directly to the uncontrolled surge at various gates, most notably at gate nos.7, 2/2A, 18, 20, and other gates where 11 deaths and 71 injuries were recorded due to the chaotic crowding caused by communication failures," it said.

Deployment inadequate

The report said that the security provided by the police was "inadequate and ineffective to meet the exigency". Under deployment of security and police personnel at high-risk gates compounded the security lapses, the report further said, adding that even these men and officers were not visible at the venue during the crisis.

"Despite clear signs of overcrowding and rising risk, the exit gates were not opened in time. It was a serious act of negligence on the part of security authorities and absence of emergency protocols. One of the key contributing factors to the stampede was the improper and unscientific installation of the barricades and the narrow constricted entry gates," the report said.

Legal action recommended against

- Raghuram Bhat, president of KSCA, A. Shankar, ex-secretary of KSCA, and Jairam E.S., ex-treasurer of KSCA
- Rajesh Menon, vice-president of Royal Challengers Sports Pvt. Ltd.
- T. Venkat Vardhan, MD, DNA Entertainment Networks, and Sunil Mathur, vice-president of DNA Entertainment Networks
- B. Dayananda, ADGP, former Commissioner of Police; Vikash Kumar Vikash, former Additional Commissioner of Police (West); Shekhar H.T., former DCP Central Division; C. Balakrishna, former ACP, Cubbon Park station; Girish A.K., former inspector, Cubbon Park station

The report further said that ambulances were deployed far off, like on Old Airport Road, and there was no casualty reception point or temporary medical centre, which meant that critical time was lost in providing life-saving care to victims of stampede.

Shift big events out

The report finds that "the design and structure of the stadium was unsuitable and unsafe for mass gathering" and "given these systematic limitations" the commission "strongly recommends that stadium authorities consider relocating events that are expected to attract large crowds to venues that are better suited for such large gatherings".

Any future venue should adhere to international standards, including built queuing and circulation zones separated from public roads, adequate entry/exit gates for mass entry and exit, integrated public transport access points and tourist hubs, emergency evacuation plans compliant with international safety norms and sufficient parking and drop off infrastructure.

"Until such infrastructural changes are made, continuing to host high-attendance events at the current location poses unacceptable risks to public safety, urban mobility and emergency preparedness," the report says.

Abruptly stopping RCB's 'illegal' victory event could have led to violence: Govt.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government told the High Court of Karnataka that "it did not stop the RCB's victory celebrations" at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium even though permission was not granted for the event, "as abruptly stopping the celebrations could have potentially incited violence among the gathered crowd and adversely affected overall law and order situation across the city".

"The event commenced around 5.30 p.m., and a measured response was taken by curtailing the duration of the function. Instead of complete termination, a measured approach was adopted by allowing the event to proceed with significantly curtailed duration and enhanced monitoring," the government has said in its status report submitted to the court on June 12.

The report has now become public as a Division Bench comprising acting Chief Justice V. Kameswar Rao and Justice C.M. Joshi, which had on June 5 *suo motu* initiated a public interest litigation petition on the stampede incident, had on July 8 rejected the government's plea to keep the report in a sealed cover while stating that the issue involved is neither of national security nor of privacy rights.

The stadium event commenced around 5.30 p.m., and a measured response was taken by curtailing its duration, State govt. tells High Court

This tactical decision considered the evolving ground situation, crowd psychology, the massive scale of the gathering, and the information asymmetry among the assembled masses, the government said in the report, which was submitted to the court on June 12 in a sealed cover.

"The risk of large-scale rioting both within the stadium premises and throughout Bengaluru necessitated this careful balancing approach, prioritising overall public safety over immediate event cessation. It is common and known in law and order situations that cancellation of anticipated events can incite the crowd tremendously and lead to widespread mob violence, as has been seen in several events where such decisions have been take," it has been claimed in the report.

The government has also reiterated its consistent stand that the stampede occurred due to the RCB's call to fans through social media about the victory parade and organising the event without obtaining permission as per the law.

Intelligence failure

The status report also disclosed that "recognising potential intelligence failures", the government transferred the head of Intelligence (Hemant M. Nimbalkar, Additional Director-General of Police-Intelligence) and appointed a new Intelligence chief in his place.

NTPC to be told to review locations for nuclear plant before submitting proposal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government on Thursday decided to ask the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) to review locations across the State before submitting its proposal for a nuclear power plant.

Initial proposal

While the NTPC has initially proposed Vijayapura, Koppal, and Raichur as possible locations, the State Cabinet, which met here on Thursday, decided to ask the corporation to consider the State as a unit and review possible locations across the State.

"We have agreed on the need for a nuclear power project. However, we want the NTPC to study the whole State and submit a feasibility report on all possibilities to the government based on which a decision could be taken," Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil told pressmen in his post-Cabinet meeting briefing. He clarified that the State government had not given any guidelines to the NTPC on the project.

State govt. decides to undo denotification

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government on Thursday decided to undo the denotification exercise undertaken by the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) with respect to 29 cases where it had issued preliminary notifications or final notifications for acquiring land.

Sources said that they all total over 50 acres. According to Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil, there is no scope for denotification after the BDA initiates the acquisition process.

"Despite the rule, denotification was taken up, which is illegal. Action will be initiated against officials who were responsible for the illegal act," Mr. Patil said.

The Minister said the Cabinet has also decided to amend the definition of 'plastic bag' in the notifications issued on March 11, 2016, and April 4, 2018, banning the use of plastic bags and define it as 'compostable plastic bag'. He said the amendment was being proposed to make the plastic management easier.

Other decisions

The other Cabinet decisions include approval of the purchase of 32 mobile forensic vehicles at a cost ₹20.4 crore, Horticulture Technology Park on 194.33 acres under the PPP model at Kanakagiri in Koppal district, and implementation of the Centrally- sponsored revamped distribution sector scheme by Chamundeshari Electricity Supply Company at a cost of ₹3,779.06 crore.

Expansion approved

It also approved expansion of the area of Shettihalli wildlife reserve in Tirthahalli in Shivamogga district; setting up of mango and other horticulture produce management, procurement, processing, and preservation unit at Hangal in Haveri district at a cost of ₹35.07 crore on the lines of Common Infrastructure for Industrial Parks; purchase of 1,530 telemetric equipment at a cost of ₹19.89 crore, and setting up of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Constitution Chair in the University of Mysore at a cost of ₹10 crore.

'Announcement was made on the Vidhana Soudha steps asking fans to go to stadium'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Public announcement was made on the steps of the Vidhana Soudha asking cricket fans to move to the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium soon after the government's official ceremony of felicitating Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) players concluded, and senior police officers were made "scapegoats" in the incident of stampede that occurred outside the stadium, it was argued before the High Court of Karnataka, on behalf of senior IPS officer Vikash Kumar Vikash.

What govt. said

Earlier, it was contended on behalf of the State government that some police officers acted like "servants" of the RCB and "embarrassed" the government due to the death of 11 persons in the stampede on June 4.

These submissions were made before a Division Bench comprising Justice S.G. Pandit and Justice T.M. Nadaf during an appeal filed by the State government, which had questioned the Central Administrative Tribunal's July 1 verdict of quashing the government's June 5 order of suspending Mr. Vikash Kumar, who was holding the post of Additional Commissioner of Police (West) on the day of the stampede.

Senior advocate P.S. Rajgopal, appearing for the government, argued that the police officers made some security arrangements without first asking who had authorised the public event.

Pointing out that senior police officer have the power under Section 35 of the Karnataka Police Act to "prohibit certain acts for prevention of disorder", Mr. Rajgopal contended that they failed to exercise this power and Mr. Vikash Kumar, who was allegedly aware of the request made by the Karnataka State Cricket Association on victory celebrations to the station house officer of the Cubbon Park police station, had failed to take proper measure.

Senior advocate Dhyan Chinnappa, appearing for Mr. Vikash Kumar, contended that the senior police officers were made "scapegoats" as suspension was not based on any material against the police officers but to fix "accountability" on someone.

The arguments will continue on Friday.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Lakes-Mahadevapura)
Room No. 306, 3rd Floor, Annex-3 Building, Head Office,
N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002.

No. EE/Lakes-MDP/TN-04/2025-26 Date: 17.07.2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)

Short Term Tender Notification (Only through GoK KPP Portal)

The Executive Engineer, Lakes - Mahadevapura, BBMP, Bengaluru on behalf the Commissioner, BBMP invites Item rate Tenders from eligible contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Govt. Organisations for the following work.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Value of work (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1	Balance Fencing works, Benches CCTV, Trash Barriers at Doddanekundi Lake.	207.46	3,11,203/-

Stipulated Period of completion : **6 months.**

Calendar of Events: **(1)** Bid documents may be downloaded from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 19.07.2025. (2)** Date of Pre-bid meeting : **22.07.2025 at 15.30 hrs. at the above office. (3)** Last date & time for submission of tenders : **28.07.2025 upto 16.00 hrs. (4)** Date of opening of Technical bid : **29.07.2025 after 16.30 hrs.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Lakes - Mahadevapura), BBMP

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client ('Client') is desirous of entering into certain transaction in connection with the immovable property morefully described in the 'Schedule' hereto and hereinafter referred to as 'Schedule Property' with Mr. Naga Durga Narashima Murthy Nandula Srinivasa, S/o Mr. Radha Krishna Sharma Nandula, & Mrs. Kolluru Swati, W/o Mr. Naga Durga Narashima Murthy Nandula Srinivasa, both residing at Flat No.1302, Tower-20 Raintree Boulevard, Bellary Road, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru-560092 ('Owners'). The Owners have represented to my Client that they are the absolute owners of the Schedule Property with unrestricted rights of alienation over the same.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s other than the Owner/s, asserting any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned, their claim/s, if any, over the Schedule Property or their objections, if any, to the aforementioned transaction. The said claim/s or objections must be in writing, together with documentary proof of such claim/s or objections, so as to reach us at the address given below within a period of 10 (Ten) days from the date of publication of this Notice. If no such claim/s or objections are received, it shall be deemed that no one else other than the Owner/s has/ have any right, title, interest or claim/s whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property and my Client would be at liberty to proceed with the aforesaid transaction in connection with the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE
(Description of entire property)

Residential apartment No. RBT20F1302 on the 13th Floor of Tower T20 in the Project 'Raintree Boulevard', admeasuring approximately 86.771 square meters (934 square feet) of carpet area and 125.88 square meters (1355 square feet) of super built up area, with 1 Covered Car Parking Space bearing No. RBT20UB123 at upper basement level and bearing BBMP Khatha No.239/240/275/88/1/240/276/89/1/371/T-20-F-1302. along with 35.690 square meters (384.000 square feet), undivided share, right, title and interest in the residential land admeasuring 25.72 acres equivalent to 1,04,108.71 square meters approximately in the Survey Numbers: 90,97/1,97/2,97/3,92/1,93/1,93/3,93/2A,93/2B,93/4,93/5,95/1,96/1,96/2,94/2,94/3,94/1,94/4,95/2 in the Bellary highway at Byatarayanapura village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluka and butted and bounded on :

East by : Commercial Boundary
West by : Civic Amenities/Parks and Open Spaces
North by : Commercial Boundary
South by : Village Road.

Date: 18/07/2025
Place: Bangalore

Sd/-
Mr. Harshavardhan.R
Advocate
No.12, Nandi View Layout,
Dinnur Road, RT Nagar,
Bangalore-32
+919740970555

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Parvathamma** has lost the Original Release Deed dated **03.03.2020** executed by Siddagangamma, Manjunath and Siddnarasimha. N in favour of Chandranarasimha and the same has been registered as document **No.10475/2019-20 of Book I, Stored in CD No.KEND1013**, in the office of the Sub Registrar Kengeri, Bangalore with respect to the Schedule property on 01.07.2024. My client has not handed over the above said Release deed nor transacted with respect to the Schedule Property with anybody. If anybody found the above said Release deed may kindly handover the same to the under signed and they will be suitably rewarded.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Site No.577, situated at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Badavane in 7th Block 'B' Sector, formed in Sy. No.212 of Kommaghatta Village, Layout formed by BDA, Bangalore, measuring East to West 15.00 meters and North to South 23.10 + 22.60/2 meters in all measuring 242.75 Sq. meter and bounded on:

East by : Property No. 578
West by : Property No. 576
North by : Road
South by : Property No. 584 and 585

G. NARAYANA HEBBAR
Advocate
No. 38/15, Ground Floor, W.A.T. Street,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore- 560004.
Phone: 80735 73477

Bangalore Date: 16.07.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of my client Mrs. Chitra Varadaraj, W/o Ranganathan M, residing at No. 48/81M, Gandhi Nagar 1st street, Dharmapuri, Tamilnadu-636701 intending to purchase the property more fully described in the schedule from its owner Mr. Priyaranjan Dash, S/o Prasanna Kumar Dash who acquired by way of Sale Deed dated 27-04-2007, bearing document No.BGR-1-00292/2007-08 in the office of the Sub-registrar, Begur, Bangalore.

Therefore any person/s having any right, title, interest lien, charge or claim by way of sale, exchange, mortgage, gift, inheritance, possession, tenancy, beneficial interest under any decree, order or otherwise claiming whatsoever in or over the schedule property or to any portions thereof, may submit their objection/s claim/s in writing to the undersigned through registered post along with the supporting documentary evidence within seven days of the issuance of this notice, failing which the negotiations shall be completed without any reference to such claims.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Apartment bearing **No. E-104,** in the 1st Floor of the multi-storied apartment building known as **'CONCORDE MIDWAY CITY,'** bearing BBMP PID No.5820832713, Khatha No. 43/159 20F NO-E-104 1st Fl. having **1736 Sq.feet** of super built up area having 956.36 Sq.ft of undivided share, constructed in the Sy.No. 20, measuring 5 acres 1 gunta, situated at Basapura Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, which comes under BBMP limits.

Advocate BABY GEORGE
Manjunatha Layout, Naganathapura
Electronic City, Bangalore-560100
Mobile: 9448087447

Bangalore
18-07-2025

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Office of the Deputy General Manager-1,
1st Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru - 560052.

No.DGM-1/BSWML/TEND/06/2025-26 Date: 17.07.2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

1) The waste processing plants established by BBMP are to be operated and maintained to process wet waste with approved technology to generate compost as per SOP.
2) In view of this, tenders are invited on behalf of **Managing Director, BSWML** for the following works.
3) The Tender documents can be downloaded from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** on payment of prescribed fee noted against each item of work (non-refundable) in the form of e-Payment through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. The Bidder shall submit the bid through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Amount (in Rupees)	Stipulated Period of Service Contract
1	Operation and Maintenance of Wet Waste Processing Plant of 150 TPD Capacity Located at Doddabidarakallu. – Call-2	993.13	**Rs. 1,00,000/-** through e-Payment under of the following i.e., Online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the Balance **Rs. 13,90,000/-** by Bank Guarantee / FDR issued by Nationalized / Scheduled Bank	**24 Months**

CALENDER OF EVENTS:
1. Date of Pre bid meeting: **23.07.2025 at 15:00 hours** in office of the **Chief Engineer & Chief General Manager (Tech), BSWML, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560052.**
2. Last date of submission of Bids in KPP Portal: **01.08.2025 before 16:00 hours.**
3. The Technical Bid opening date in KPP Portal: **02.08.2025 after 16:30 hours.**

NOTE:
1) Joint Venture is permissible upto 2 (two) entities. The validity of tender is 180 days from the date of opening of tender.
2) Aspiring Bidders / Contractors who have not registered in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal should the Website **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** register before participating through the Website **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)**
3) The Bidder shall be required to meet eligibility criteria as per the tender conditions vide Bid Document.
4) Before submission of online bids, bidders must ensure that scanned copies of all the necessary documents have been attached with bid.
5) All the required information required for Bids must be filled and submit online.
6) For details, registration and e-payment visit GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or contact Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Helpdesk.**
7) Any Addendum / Corrigendum shall be published in the KPP Portal only.

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-1
BSWML, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/1899 /AKAR/2025-26

Apex court raps HC for granting bail to actor Darshan

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday expressed its reservation over the Karnataka High Court's decision to grant bail to Kannada actor Darshan Thoogudeepa in the Renukaswamy murder case.

A Bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan said it was "not at all convinced" by the manner in which the High Court exercised its discretion.

The Bench asked senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for the actor, to give "good reasons" why it should not interfere with the bail order.

"To be very honest with you, we are not convinced with the manner in which the high court has exercised discretion. Very honestly, we will say this. We will hear you because your clients are on bail; they have come for cancellation of bail, and you must have seen the manner in which the high court had dictated the order," Justice Pardiwala told Mr. Sibal.

Mr. Sibal asked the Bench to examine the statements of key witnesses recorded by the police and the judicial magistrate.

On being asked as to which part of the High Court's order was troubling the Bench, Justice Pardiwala referred to the portion where the High Court was looking for "how to release them (accused) on bail".

"You need to convince us that there is no good reason for this court to interfere," the Bench said.

The Bench told senior advocate Siddharth Luthra, appearing for Karnataka, to inform about the antecedents, if any, of the accused persons on the next hearing on July 22.

The Bench was hearing a plea filed by the State government challenging the High Court's December 13, 2024, order granting bail to Darshan and other co-accused.

Darshan, along with actor Pavithra Gowda and several others, is accused of abducting and torturing 33-year-old Renukaswamy, a fan who allegedly sent obscene messages to Pavithra.

The police alleged the victim was held in a shed and tortured in Bengaluru for three days in June 2024, and his body was recovered from a drain.

The top court on January 24, 2025, issued the notices to Pavithra Gowda and others in the case on the plea of the State government.

In the interim order, the Bench refused to cancel the bail granted to them in the case.

The top court then observed it wasn't "proper to stay the operation" of the bail order, as it would amount to cancellation of bail, as prayed by the State.

Darshan was arrested on June 11, 2024, for allegedly killing his fan Renukaswamy on June 8 the same year after he reportedly sent obscene messages to Gowda.

SC stays HC order in contempt case against Kumaraswamy

Case relates to allegations of land encroachment by the Union Minister and family; Kumaraswamy claimed that he had been issued an eviction notice based on a case in which he was not a party

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday directed an April 17 order of the Karnataka High Court impleading Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy in a contempt case to be kept in abeyance.

The contempt case is related to allegations of large-scale encroachment of land by Mr. Kumaraswamy and his family.

A Bench headed by Justice Pankaj Mithal issued notice to the NGO, Samaj Parivartana Samudaya, represented by advocate Prashant Bhushan, which had first brought the allegations to the High Court.

The NGO had drawn the High Court's attention to an interlocutory report from the State Lokayukta in 2011 against encroachment of government lands in Kethaganahalli village, Bidadi, in Karnataka.

H.D. Kumaraswamy

The High Court had closed the case in January 2020, banking on the then State Advocate General's assurance that action would be taken. However, the Lokayukta proceedings were subsequently closed citing lack of jurisdiction.

Mr. Kumaraswamy has maintained in the High Court that the land was purchased by him. The present Congress regime argued that the allegations against Mr. Kumaraswamy were *prima facie* true.

'Comedy of errors'

A contempt case was filed in the High Court on the ground that the State did not comply with its assurance to take action against the encroachments as recorded in the January 2020 order.

During this time, revenue authorities issued eviction notice to Mr. Kumaraswamy on the basis of the contempt proceedings.

Mr. Kumaraswamy, represented by senior advocate C.A. Sundaram, and advocates Balaji Srinivasan and Rohini Musa, had approached the apex court, arguing that he had been issued eviction notice on the basis of a contempt case in which he was not even a party. The lawyers had termed the turn of events as a "comedy of errors". The Supreme court had granted him liberty to approach the High Court with this plea.

The High Court responded by impleading the Union Minister in the contempt proceedings in the April 17 order.

Custody row: SC directs Centre to issue LOC against Russian wife, child on Indian man's plea

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

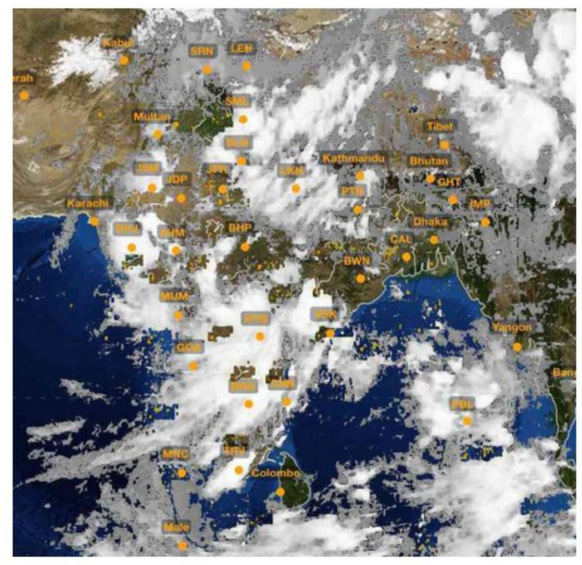
The Supreme Court on Thursday directed senior Delhi Police officials to immediately trace a child of a Russian mother and an Indian father. It requested that the Centre issue a Look Out Circular (LOC) for the woman and the minor to ensure they did not leave the country.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi directed the authorities to seize her passport and inform all international airports and other ports within India, as well as the immigration authorities, to ensure she did not leave the country. The father is fighting a custody battle for the child with the estranged Russian wife, and he alleged that she wasn't complying with the court's order of custody of the minor. The man claimed to be unaware of his wife's and child's whereabouts since July 7. He was observed to have made several complaints, but no action was taken. "Father of the child apprehends that the petitioner has been facilitated to flee out of the jurisdiction of this court. She was statedly seen entering the Russian Embassy through a back door on July 4, 2025 along with a Russian diplomat, with whom she is alleged to have some relationship. It is further alleged that the police have failed to provide protection to the minor child, thereby defying the directions issued by this court," the bench said.

The top court directed the Ministry of External Affairs officials to liaise with the relevant authorities in the Russian embassy and seek permission to enter into the residential premises of the diplomat, who was last seen in her company on July 4. The top court posted the hearing on July 18, when it asked the authorities concerned to file a status report.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	26	30.1	25.8	Kozhikode	76	30.0	23.1
Ahmedabad	—	35.4	27.6	Kurnool	0.2	35.3	26.3
Aizawl	2	31.2	22.0	Lucknow	5	30.7	25.6
Allahabad	62	26.8	24.8	Madurai	—	40.0	27.1
Bengaluru	0.6	28.8	20.3	Mangaluru	4.8	26.8	22.2
Bhopal	14	28.4	23.6	Mumbai	—	31.6	27.5
Bhubaneswar	1.2	34.4	27.1	Mysuru	—	28.4	18.4
Chandigarh	1.8	33.8	26.4	New Delhi	15	34.8	25.2
Chennai	—	37.1	27.2	Patna	16	33.9	25.6
Coimbatore	—	30.9	21.5	Port Blair	0.7	30.4	24.3
Dehradun	11	29.0	23.2	Puducherry	—	35.1	26.5
Gangtok	29	25.2	17.9	Pune	—	32.8	23.7
Goa	5	30.2	26.0	Raipur	9.2	33.2	25.9
Guwahati	—	35.2	26.9	Ranchi	0.3	30.3	23.6
Hubballi	—	28.0	23.0	Shillong	20	24.9	17.4
Hyderabad	—	34.4	24.6	Shimla	3	24.2	20.0
Imphal	—	30.4	26.4	Srinagar	11	28.1	19.0
Jaipur	—	29.7	26.0	Thiruvananthapuram	6	28.4	23.0
Kochi	43	27.0	22.6	Tiruchi	—	37.5	26.0
Kohima	—	22.0	19.5	Vijayawada	5	37.4	27.6
Kolkata	2	35.0	27.0	Visakhapatnam	8	33.5	27.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.14	..56	50	 96	...108	.....
Bengaluru	...9	..38	35	 55	66	.....
Chennai	.10	..16	65	 45	56	.....
Delhi	.13	..39	44	 58	...123	.....
Hyderabad	.11	..19	47	 71	83	.....
Kolkata	...3	..70	18	 62	63	.....
Lucknow	.95	..12	10	 69	47	.....
Mumbai	...3	..19	30	 43	...103	.....
Pune	..—	..52	77	 45	...105	.....
Visakhapatnam	...9	..52	10	 53	93	.....

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Araria, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 157 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 14

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Govt of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer, VJNL,
UBP Division No. 3, Ajjampura
Tel/FaxNo-08261-200114 e-mail- eeubp3.1@gmail.com
NO: EE/VJNL/UBP/D-03/Ajjampura/PB-1/Tender notification/2025-26/359 Dated: 16.07.2025
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION(Through KPPP Portal)
Percentage tender through KPPP-portal for the AME work under single cover system is invited by the Executive Engineer, VJNL, UBP, Division No. 03 Ajjampura on behalf of the Managing Director, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Ltd, from the registered contractors with valid KPTCL Class-I contractors &KPWD contractors who fulfills the pre-qualification conditions for VJNL/2025-26/EL/WORK_INDENT284) The Contractors can download and submit the completed bid documents through KPPP website http://www.kppp. karnataka.gov.in from 18.07.2025 to 25.07.2025 upto 17.30 hours. Details such as Amount put to tender/ EMD amount/ qualification of Bidders/ Tender conditions/Tender processing fee etc can be obtained through KPPP Portal or from the office of the under signed during the office hours 25.07.2025 (17.30 hours). The Bid will be opened on 28.07.2025 at 11.30 hours at the office of the Executive Engineer, VJNL, UBP, Division No. 03 Ajjampura through KPPP Portal.
Sd/- Executive Engineer VJNL, UBP, Division No.03, Ajjampura
619

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, KBJNL, Forest Division, Almatti-586201. Tq:B.Bagewadi. Dt: Vijayapur. Phone: 08426-281410
NO.KBJNL/DCF/BUD/DPT-/CAT/TENDER/2025-26/390 Dated: 15.07.2025
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (through e-procurement)
On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL Bangalore, The Deputy Conservator of Forests, KBJNL, Forest Division Almatti invites short term tender for Maintenance of Plantation and Other works for CAT Work Indent No..KBJNL/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT No.1739 to 1743, 1745 to 1752, 1763 to 1774, 1781 to 1794 Total (39) works through e-procurement (KPPP) as per KTPP Act-1999 and Rules 2000 on Percentage basis from the eligible bidders for the work as detailed in table below. Bidders may get detailed information and terms and conditions to apply at website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (Location:-KBJNL Division Forest Division Almatti) and in the above mentioned office. The tender processing Fee and EMD should be paid through KPPP portal.
Calender of events:

Sl.No	Details	Dates and Time
1	Publishing tender date	14.07.2025 at 5.00 PM
2	Last date for receiving the tender bids	30.07.2025 at 5.00 PM.
3	Opening Technical bids	02.08.2025 at 11.00 AM
4	Opening Financial bids	05.08.2025 at 11.00 AM

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/190/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಪಿಎ/2025–26
Sd/- Deputy Conservator of Forests, KBJNL, Forest Division, Almatti

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LIMITED
ELCOT
9th Floor, Sigapi Aachi Building,
18/3, Rukmani Lakshmipathi Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.
www.elcot.in | +91 44 2855 6100 | rctender@elcot.in
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Tender No. ELCOT-RC-IT02-2025-0034
ELCOT invites **"Comprehensive tender for Digitization Services on Rate Contract Basis".** For complete details, please visit **www.elcot.in** or **www.tntenders.gov.in.** Pre-bid meeting: **29.07.2025, 11:30 a.m.** Last date for submission of e-bids: **12.08.2025, 3 p.m.** For queries: **rctender@elcot.in**
DIPR/3686/Tender/2025
Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
MEDICAL EDUCATION & TRAINING, UTTAR PRADESH
6th FLOOR, JAWAHAR BHAWAN, LUCKNOW
No. ME-3/2025/1586 Lucknow : Dated 17/07/2025
The Time Schedule of First Round of Online Counseling Registration for UP NEET UG-2025
In continuation of the time-table issued by Medical Counseling Committee (MCC), New Delhi for counseling of NEET UG course, the time-table of first round of online counseling registration for admission of state quota seats of UG course (MBBS/ BDS) in Government/Private Medical/Dental Colleges/Universities of the State is as follows:-

S.No.	Description	Dates	Total Days
1.	Date of online registration and Upload of documents	18th July 2025 (From 02:00 PM) to 28th July 2025 (Till 11:00 AM)	10 days
2.	Date of deposition of registration fee and security Money	18th July 2025 (From 02:00 PM) to 28th July 2025 (Till 2:00 PM)	10 days

- Candidates should check their eligibility themselves as per GO No.-1/995234/2025, Dated- 18.06.2025 and Brochure issued for UP NEET UG 2025.
- All information related to UP NEET UG 2025 counseling will be uploaded on Departmental website **https://upneet.gov.in** and **www.dgme.up.gov.in**

Help Line Numbers - 8189011696, 8189011697, 8189011698, 8189011699, 8189011700
DGME

KALABURAGI MAHANAGARA PALIKE, KALABURAGI
Fax No.08472/260776, Phone: 08472/ 278675, Email Id: itstaff_ulb_gulbarga@yahoo.com
No.KMP/HS/SWM/Leagcy Waste/2024-25 Date: 10.07.2025
:: E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION ::
Under the Karnataka Public Procurement Transparency Rules 2000, Kalaburagi Mahanagara Corporation invites tenders from eligible bidders for the work mentioned below. Tenders are invited through e-procurement for the following services.
1) Details of Work/Service : Processing and Disposal of Legacy waste at Survey No. 82 of Udanoor Village, Kalaburagi District.2) Indent Numbers : **DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT 1405/CALL-6, 3)** EMD Amount (In Rupees) : 15,79,420/-, 4) Dates fixed for tender : 1. Pre-Bid Meeting Date: 16.07.2025 Time : 11.00am, 2. Last Date and Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications Date : 17.07.2025 Time : 4.00pm, 3. Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders Date : 24.07.2025 Time : 5.00pm, 4. Date and Time for Prequalification Bid Date : 25.07.2025 Time : 5.10pm, 5. Last Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid Date : 26.07.2025 Time : 5.30pm, 6. Last Date and Time for Opening of Financial Bid Date : 28.07.2025 Time : 11.00am
• More details about EMD is available in e-procurement, • For more details: Assistant Executive Engineer (Env) Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike can be contacted. • Website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
DIPR/Kalaburagi/295/KSMC&A/2025-26
Sd/- Assistant Executive Engineer(Env) Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike Kalaburagi

Government of Karnataka
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
CHAMARAJANAGARA DIVISION, CHAMARAJANAGARA
Phone/Fax : 08226-222027 e-mail : eecnr@kpwd.gov.in / pwdeechngr@gmail.com
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal only)
(Two Cover System : Section-1-Technical Bid and Section-2-Financial Bid)
Short Term Tender Notification No 08/2025-26 Dated : 14-07-2025 (Call-4)
Item rate tenders are invited through Kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal only on behalf of Governor of Karnataka from Eligible registered civil Contractor in KPWD in Standard Bid document **KW-4,** form The Total no of works is 1, **H/A : 5054-04-337-0-01-154 (Plan) MDR Improvement Works** maximum estimated cost is Rs. 500.00 lakhs, Further changes in this Notification will be published in Kppp.karnataka.gov.in Only. Date of events as follows :

1	Date and Time for downloading the tender document from the Kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal	From 15-07-2025 to 01-08-2025 upto 16.00 Hrs.
2	Pre-Bid Meeting Date	28-07-2025 in Division Office Meeting Hall at 11.00 AM
3	Downloading the tender document from the Last Date and Time	01-08-2025 upto 16.00 Hrs.
4	Date & Time for opening of Technical bid	04-08-2025 after 16.00 Hrs.
5	Date & Time for opening of Financial bid	06-08-2025 after 16.00 Hrs.

More information can be had from the web site : **https ://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** & Any other details required can be obtained from office of the under signed during office hours.
DIPR : CHANAGAR:212:2025-26
Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Chamarajanagar.

ದೊಡ್ಡತೋಗೂರು ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ – 560100
ಫೋನ್: 080–22111177, e-Mail:ka.doddathoguru.tp@gmail.com
ಸಂ.ದೊತೊ/ಪಪಂ/ತಾಶಾ/ಸಿಆರ್/09/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.07.2025
ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ದೊಡ್ಡತೋಗೂರು ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ನಿಧಿ ಹಾಗೂ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ಮುಕ್ತ ನಿಧಿ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಳಚರಂಡಿ, ಚರಂಡಿ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಉದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿದ್ದು, ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳ ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿದ್ದು ಇನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ದೊಡ್ಡತೋಗೂರು ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಯ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಶಾಖೆಯಿಂದ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಟೆಂಡರಿಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇಎಂಡಿ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ
1	DMA/2025-26/WS/ WORK_ INDENT 40478/CAll-2	88.30	74,56,939.00	1,49,138.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ
2	DMA/2025-26/WS/ WORK_ INDENT 40477/CAll-2	93.00	84,09,990.00	1,68,199.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ
3	DMA/2025-26/OW/ WORK_ INDENT 42445/CAll-2	0.96	81,309.00	1,016.00	ಎಸ್.ಸಿ

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28.07.2025 ಸಮಯ 5:00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ,** ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29.07.2025 ಸಮಯ 5:30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ** ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳಂದು ರಜಾ ದಿನಗಳನ್ನಾಗಿ ಘೋಷಣೆಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಅದರ ಮುಂದಿನ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಯ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಶಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.
ಸಹಿ/–
ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು
ದೊಡ್ಡತೋಗೂರು ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ
ಸಹಿ/–
ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
ದೊಡ್ಡತೋಗೂರು ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಜಿಎ/1883/2025–26

Stepping stone

The NASA-Axiom-ISRO tie-up is an admirable outcome

A crew of four astronauts including India's Shubhanshu Shukla completed their roughly two-week mission to the International Space Station on July 15. Mr. Shukla's trip was presumed to have been an intensive rehearsal ahead of his flight as part of India's first batch of astronauts for ISRO's 'Gaganyaan' mission, currently expected in 2027. The presumption is because the goals of Mr. Shukla's trip, which ISRO arranged for by paying north of ₹500 crore to Axiom Space, have not been officially communicated by Indian authorities. Fortunately, clarifications from Axiom and NASA have since cast more light on its purpose. While ISRO and the Department of Space are still expected to proactively disseminate what they know about their activities under Gaganyaan, not least because of the mission's ₹20,000 crore price tag, Mr. Shukla's trip ought to strengthen ISRO's preparations. Human spaceflight is a highly involved endeavour: once in space, the crew is on its own and the resources to respond to a variety of situations are limited. According to a statement ISRO published after the mission launched on June 25, Mr. Shukla and Prasanth Nair – who is also part of Gaganyaan's first cohort of astronauts and was part of the Axiom mission's backup crew – were familiarised with "advanced spacecraft systems, emergency protocols, scientific payload operations, microgravity adaptation, space medicine, and survival traits". As the mission pilot, per Axiom, Mr. Shukla was also coached on docking and undocking, manual operations, atmospheric reentry, and anomaly management. Onboard the space station, Mr. Shukla was exposed to operations in the Japanese and European modules, for which he and Mr. Nair were trained in Japan and Germany. ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan has also said that the Axiom mission cost less than what ISRO might have had to invest if it had to train Mr. Shukla on its own. In all, the NASA-Axiom-ISRO tie-up emerges as an admirable outcome, even as space agencies continue to closely guard space technologies for their strategic value.

Concerns that the limitations imposed by the U.S.'s International Traffic in Arms Regulations would prevent the duo from learning much may also be laid to rest. Instead, they may be replaced by concerns about ISRO's piecemeal communication. Astronauts cut inspirational figures and appeal to all ages. As India prepares for its first human spaceflight mission, there can be no better way to build excitement than by facilitating access to India's astronauts. The lack of initiative is hard to rationalise, although it is still not too late. ISRO as well as India's soft power platform will make copious gains by expanding outreach and easing public access to the spacefarers.

Middle ground

Trump must ask Russia to back down from its maximalist position

President Donald Trump has made a U-turn on Ukraine, shifting from his campaign pledge to end the war within 24 hours of taking office to promising to send more weapons to Ukraine and threatening to impose "severe tariffs" on Russia and its trading partners if the crisis is not resolved in 50 days. The shift reflects the complex realities on the ground. Ukraine, which has lost more than 20% of its territories, including its Sea of Azov coastline, to Russia since 2014, agreed to a ceasefire, under pressure from the Trump administration, based on the current frontline. Russia had initially responded to Mr. Trump's peace push. It agreed to a naval ceasefire in the Black Sea, and halted attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure for 30 days. Moscow also declared brief ceasefires and sent negotiators to Istanbul for talks with Kyiv on June 2, despite a drone strike by Ukraine deep inside Russia, targeting its bombers. But after the U.S. joined Israel to bomb Iran, despite Tehran's nuclear talks with Washington, Russia accelerated attacks on Ukraine with drone attacks and troop advances in the Dnipropetrovsk region. In a call with Mr. Trump, Russian President Vladimir Putin said he would not back down from his goals in Ukraine. Caught between an intransigent Moscow and pressure from his allies, Mr. Trump seems to have decided to change course.

Nevertheless, Mr. Trump has ruled out giving Ukraine long-range offensive weapons. The plan is to send defensive weapons, including Patriot systems and ammunition to Ukraine through NATO allies. While Patriots could be effective in shielding Ukraine's skies from Russian missile strikes, they are unlikely to alter the balance in the battlefield. And, the U.S.'s ability to hurt Russia through direct tariffs is limited as bilateral trade stood at just $3 billion in 2024. But if Mr. Trump opts for secondary tariffs, the impact would extend to other countries, including India, China, and Brazil. Since the start of the Ukraine war, the U.S. and Europe have imposed multiple layers of sanctions on Russia, which have failed to impact the Kremlin's war policies. By threatening to penalise third countries for Russia's actions, Mr. Trump is doubling down on a failed policy, and also jeopardising the energy security of countries such as India, an American partner. Mr. Trump must realise that he cannot resolve global conflicts through imperial-style ultimatums and threats. Instead, sustained diplomacy with Moscow and Kyiv is essential. Russia must come down from its maximalist demands, and Ukraine's security concerns should be addressed. His focus should be on finding a middle ground between the Russian and Ukrainian positions to achieve a durable peace.

The parameters of 'success' in Bihar's poll roll revision

Ashok Lavasa

is former Election Commissioner and Union Finance Secretary of India

Measuring success is complicated; assessing the impact of one's action can be even more challenging. The desire to be successful is different from the desperation to demonstrate success.

Stakeholders have different yardsticks for measuring performance depending on their interest leaving the vital question "how does one measure one's own success?" The Election Commission of India (ECI) could perhaps be in a trilemma in the wake of its June 24, 2025 announcement of its Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of Electoral Rolls in Bihar, caught among political parties, citizens, the judiciary, and its own conscience.

Once again, it finds itself in an avoidable imbroglio, responding to the judiciary's questions arising out of the justified anxiety of millions of electors, valid apprehensions of neutral observers and unverified suspicion of political interest groups.

The ECI embarked on a seemingly laudable and perfectly legal exercise to purify electoral rolls, declaring its resolve to include all "eligible" and exclude "ineligible" persons. The underlying assumption was that some "ineligible" people had infiltrated the electoral rolls, escaping detection during its due process of documentary and physical scrutiny that Electoral Registration Officers carry out before listing anyone in the electoral rolls. Even the mandatory periodic revisions could not filter them out over the years. No one could possibly object to this effort, however formidable the task. Yet, the ECI found itself facing a barrage of opposition from political parties and civil society organisations for undertaking this mammoth exercise and imposing an impossible demand on clueless citizens in Bihar as they prepare to exercise their most powerful right – of electing their representatives. It is akin to asking for a marriage certificate after years of happy married life with children as proof of a legal union.

An institution of repute

To be sure, if there is one organisation in the country that is capable of carrying out gigantic exercises, it would, without doubt, be the ECI. From preparing the first electoral rolls in the 1950s in trying circumstances, to updating the rolls necessitated by the reorganisation of States in 1956 when it was suggested that the term of the House be extended to allow the ECI enough time to revise the rolls. The ECI did not want a constitutional amendment because of its inability to complete a mandatory requirement and lived up to the challenge. Since then, it has repeatedly demonstrated its capabilities in handling mega tasks with astounding success.

> It remains to be seen whether the Election Commission of India is able to ensure a fair exercise of verification in Bihar

Whether it is enrolling a billion people or setting up a million polling stations, mobilising over 18 lakh polling officials for conducting elections and training them, or dealing with moving 30 lakh electronic voting machines, the ECI has done it with aplomb, ably supported by the government machinery. In the process, it has earned the gratitude of an entire country and the envy of democracies across the world. Countries that may have the spirit but not the systems have often looked upon the ECI as a model in creating standard operating procedures, in galvanising resources, and its effective consultative approach in building consensus among political parties.

This has earned the ECI the trust of voters and imparted it a credibility that has been acknowledged by the media, supported by civil society organisations and earned it the respect of the judiciary. Indeed, some have referred to it as "gold standard", belying the cynics who believe that "all that glitters is not gold."

The Bihar exercise

It is in this backdrop that the sudden announcement by the ECI to carry out a purge of the Bihar electoral rolls has invited unpleasant reactions. As opponents question the ECI's motives of raising the spectre of mass disenfranchisement, the ECI is in overdrive trying to demonstrate the ease with which this apparently unwieldy operation involving nearly eight crore registered electors in Bihar is being completed.

Meanwhile, it has eased some stringent procedures, allowing those enrolled after 2003 to use the entries of their parents in the 2003 electoral rolls to support their citizenship claim. It has also allowed Booth Level Officers (BLO) to accept enumeration forms without the prescribed document to prove the eligibility of the post-2003 electors. The relaxations by the ECI obviously ramped up the daily submission of enumeration forms giving the ECI the basis for claiming success of its operations and the 'support' of the affected electors. This, supposedly, would deflate the clamour of the complainants and perhaps convince the higher judiciary that the political sound and fury signifies nothing.

It, however, remains unclear how the BLOs will "recommend" for inclusion in the draft roll such electors whose forms are not accompanied by documents and how the Electoral Registration Officer/Assistant Electoral Registration Officer decides their eligibility in the absence of those documents. Will the ECI ask such electors to provide the proof of their eligibility/citizenship after the draft roll is published on August 1? If it agrees to expand the list of prescribed documents, as suggested by the Supreme Court of India (to consider the Aadhaar card, Electoral Photo Identity Card, or EPIC and ration card), will it not simply amount to verification of identity, and not citizenship? Are we then not back to square one?

Will the indicator of the ECI's success be the number of "duly filled" forms submitted along with "self-attested documents" and electors readmitted to the rolls that were supposed to be purified? Or, will its success be the number of "ineligible" electors disenfranchised? Those who are dead, who have migrated or have enrolled twice should have been weeded out in the normal course. Did their exclusion warrant this extraordinary exercise?

On presumption of citizenship

By ascribing presumption of citizenship to the electors in the 2003 list, is the ECI claiming that after its current SIR, all those in the electoral rolls will be accepted by the government as citizens as in the Citizenship Act and no one's credentials will hereafter be questioned? Is the government willing to accept this presumption?

No individual is responsible for being born where she is, nor for creating documentary evidence of the date and place of her birth, parentage or citizenship. The authority empowered by the law is. Like many countries, India too has a law under which it is not the ECI that is designated as the competent authority: at least not as yet. However, broad the ECI's shoulders are, they may not be strong enough to carry someone else's burden.

Let us see for whom the bell tolls in Bihar.

A better terror fight with J&K police under state reins

Shashank Ranjan

is an Indian Army veteran (colonel) with substantial experience of serving in a counter-terrorism environment. He currently teaches at the O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonepat, Haryana

On June 16, 2025, the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), Manoj Sinha, emphasised that the eradication of terrorism from J&K was the government's top priority. In his address on the occasion of the passing out parade at the Sher-e-Kashmir Police Academy, Udhampur, he called upon the J&K Police (JAKP) to utilise the modern technology to counter security threats, prevent radicalisation and triumph over adverse situations. He exhorted the JAKP to adopt a multi-pronged approach and harness the power of intelligence, community engagement, technology and inter-agency collaboration, based on good old beat policing.

Crucial asset

Mr. Sinha could not have been more accurate in underlining the role of the local police in fighting terrorism. The primacy of the local or State police as the fulcrum of counter-terror operations is a well established fact. The central forces – to include the armed forces and central police forces – always supplement and can never supplant the State forces. The strength, and hence the advantage of the local police in the given context, comes from the fact that its personnel belong to the region and know the terrain and demography like no outside force would know.

This intangible asset, as part of the repertoire of the local police, is mainly due to their connect with the local population, facilitating high-grade intelligence of terrorists who operate amidst the population. Can we deny the fact that the terrorists who were behind the Pahalgam strike on April 22, 2025, are still at large mainly due to an existing gap in human intelligence (HUMINT)? Or, for that matter, there indeed was a lack of HUMINT prior to the strike and that had it been present it could have averted Pahalgam? Unless we acknowledge the gap, learn lessons and proceed accordingly, it will be challenging to ward-off potential terror strikes.

It is upon the government to constantly improve the functional aspects of JAKP, which could contribute to the overall consolidation of the security situation. A beginning needs to be made by placing the JAKP under the command of the government that has been elected by the people.

> Placing the J&K police under the command of the elected government will ensure policing strategies that align with the local population's concerns

The local population has the most intimate connect with the elected representative, who cannot be kept out of the loop as far as the security situation is concerned. Developments such as terrorist movements and overground workers' activities in an area can never escape the notice of peoples' representatives, who are one of the most crucial stakeholders in the security matrix. It is reiterated that locals always feel more comfortable to share information with their *sarpanch* or their Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) than with someone from a central agency.

Restore the democratic structure

J&K has a rich and vibrant democratic culture wherein the population has always participated in local body elections with much enthusiasm. In fact, the participation percentage in elections decreases as one goes up the structure to Assembly and parliamentary elections. Unfortunately, due to the fragile security situation, the local elected representatives – though elected from time to time – have never been empowered as in the constitutional provisions.

The democratic order in J&K needs to be restored, with all tiers in the structure of governance from panchayats/municipal bodies to MLAs and Members of Parliament activated and made responsible for security. In the laid-down tiered structure, the JAKP has a vital role towards participatory execution. If not, there will be an attitude of indifference on the part of peoples' representatives, with a likely trickle-down effect – of an indifferent local population – which will be detrimental to counter-terrorism.

Policymakers will have to encourage a structured dialogue between police forces and local leaders to collaborate and address community concerns, gather information on terror-related activities and enhance public safety initiatives.

This partnership can lead to more informed decision-making and improved community engagement in policing efforts. In a diverse situation that exists in the various sub-regions of J&K, terrorism has a local flavour, contextualised by participation of local terrorist cadres operating with foreign terrorists. These diverse challenges will have to be tackled by respective local governance, against the one size fits all approach. The JAKP, with its basic unit at the *thana* level, has always been enmeshed with local governance to produce amazing results.

Bridging the gap

In the present situation of elected representatives having been kept out of the security matrix, the desired end will always be found wanting. The policy measure of restoring the control of the JAKP under the elected government will facilitate better accountability and responsiveness to community needs, ensuring that policing strategies align with the local population's concerns and aspirations. Elected officials can play a vital role in bridging the gap between the police and the community, fostering trust and cooperation essential for effective law enforcement and counter terrorism.

By holding Assembly and parliamentary elections in J&K, we have acknowledged the agency of the people; the measures undertaken will remain an unfinished agenda if not addressed in an inclusive manner. More than terrorism, it is about granting a participatory governance model as against an elitist model, to the people. Mr. Sinha's overall aim of community engagement will remain a pipe dream if elected representatives are not incorporated with vigour, to respect the decision of the people in electing them. An improved security situation will follow.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bihar poll roll revision

There is a wide gap between how the Election Commission of India (ECI) has planned the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar and how it is being conducted on the ground. In a State with low literacy and poor administration, it is highly suspect that an exercise of such a magnitude can be carried out in a fair manner in a short period. Ground reports have exposed major rigging of the process, with voters not receiving a copy of the submitted forms and groups of booth-level officers filling out applications in bulk and signing them on behalf of unsuspecting voters. This is alleged to be happening in several locations. One can extrapolate the situation in rural Bihar, away from the media glare. A greater challenge awaits voters in the second part of the campaign, when a majority will be required to validate their claim of citizenship with a mandated document: an onerous task that is likely to result in their widespread disenfranchisement. Perhaps, there could be no other time than now for the top court to act.

Kamal Laddha,
Bengaluru

With the Supreme Court refusing to stay the ongoing SIR in Bihar, a State which goes to the polls later this year, the ECI has been given a free hand to conduct the exercise There is political advice to ensure that the SIR does not end up as a citizenship verification drive, which appears to be a distinct possibility. There could be an unseen hand where the SIR is concerned.

C.V. Aravind,
Bengaluru

One must not undermine the sincere efforts being made by the Booth Level Officers working under pressure and limited resources. The ECI must act decisively to protect both voter rights and institutional credibility. The ECI should pay attention to constructive criticism as fault-finding may reveal practical solutions. Strengthening, not politicising, this process is essential for electoral integrity.

Avinashiappan Myilsami,
Coimbatore

Noise pollution

Intoning religious verses in high pitch may be godly blandishment for one section but a nuisance for others. Despite knowing fully well the relation between silent prayer and peaceful life, even the educated religious virtuosos seek out ghoulish noise. It is unfortunate that highly literate and thickly populated Kanniyakumari district has become an epicentre of noise pollution. It has become tiresome for people to stay within closed rooms with eardrums hurting. A blanket ban on noise pollution may help improve the quality of life of the passive listeners.

T. John Paulus,
Kanniyakumari, Tamil Nadu

Food on Vande Bharat

On at least a few occasions, the food served on the Vande Bharat trains does not meet quality standards. I have travelled on this train and there is no doubt that it saves travel time even though the tickets are expensive. I travelled recently to Kozhikode and the food and beverages served do not take into account the needs of people who are concerned about their general health and diabetic health. The masala tea is premixed with sugar. The rice, mango drink, chocopie, and the sweet *kesari* are not food choices diabetics like me want. The Railways should include options for passengers who have health problems.

Jiji Panicker K.,
Chengannur, Kerala

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Should political leaders retire at 75?

Manisha Priyam

Sir Louis Matheson Distinguished Visiting Professor, Monash University

Rahul Verma

Associate Professor, Shiv Nadar School of Law, and Fellow, Centre for Policy Research

PARLEY

The suggestion of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat last week that leaders should step aside at the age of 75 triggered a debate. Opposition leaders saw Mr. Bhagwat's comment as a nudge from the RSS to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is turning 75 in September, to step down. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has maintained a studied silence on the issue. Should political leaders retire at 75? Manisha Priyam and Rahul Verma discuss the issue in a conversation moderated by **Sobhana K. Nair.** Edited excerpts:

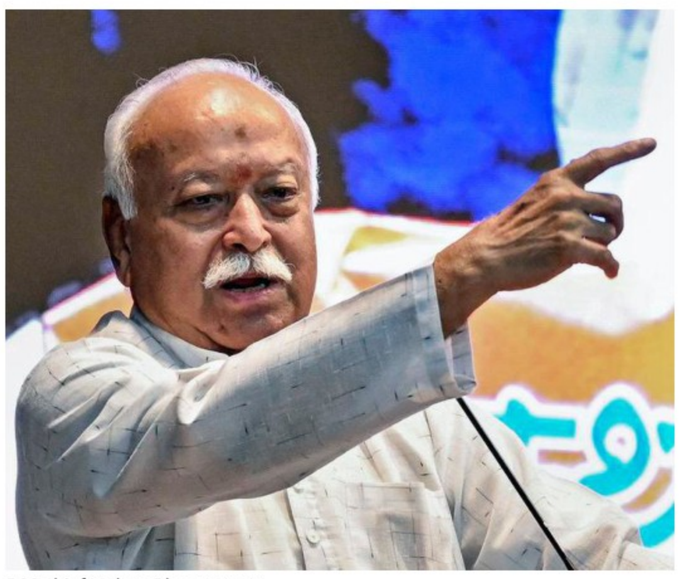
Is politics across the globe and especially in India geared in such a way that politicians reach their peak only in old age?

Manisha Priyam: Do people prefer younger leaders? Yes. But why don't they get younger leaders? This depends on several imponderables such as who controls the party machinery, who controls the party purse strings, and whether such leaders can garner resources.

We have often seen that those who reach the top hold on to their position. For instance, Lalu Prasad gained popularity at a young age. At the age of 42, he became Chief Minister of Bihar in 1990. He held on to the president's position at the Rashtriya Janata Dal. In Uttar Pradesh, Akhilesh Yadav had to fight his father Mulayam Singh Yadav for the leadership position in the Samajwadi Party.

Regarding Mr. Bhagwat's suggestion: this is not the first time that such a remark is coming from the RSS. This (unsaid rule) was used effectively in 2014 to allow Prime Minister Narendra Modi to (push out some older leaders and) nominate his own people at the top levels. But come September, I don't see Mr. Modi stepping down. Today, the RSS requires the BJP machinery much more than the BJP requires the RSS. Mr. Bhagwat does not control the levers of power in India; they clearly remain with Mr. Modi.

Rahul Verma: As per one research study, less than 10% of all elected representatives globally are below the age of 35. Once you come to India, this problem actually accentuates. From the first Lok Sabha in 1952 to the current Lok Sabha in 2024, the average age of our parliamentarians has actually gone up. The number of MPs who are below the age of 40 has declined over time and the number of MPs who are above the age of 60 has increased. The problem is not that we don't have newer faces coming into politics; the problem is, as Professor Priyam said, that the older generation of leaders does not easily cede space to younger ones. Also, perhaps, a political party itself is unwilling to bid farewell to an established leader fearing that it will destabilise the existing structure.



RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat. PTI

At the same time, I am not sure that voters would actually prefer younger politicians. It might be alright to have a 30-35-year-old MP or MLA, but I think voters would prefer older candidates for the post of Chief Minister or Prime Minister.

As far as Mr. Bhagwat's comment is concerned, I concur with Professor Priyam that we are unlikely to see any change (regarding Prime Minister Modi's position).

Is there any evidence which shows that nations led by younger leaders perform better?

MP: We have a large number of nations where there is no form of democracy, let alone change of political leadership. These include China and Russia. And we see various forms of either party authoritarianism or one-man rule in these countries.

In parallel, we also have the example of the U.K. where there have been several Prime Ministers taking office in their 40s, from Tony Blair to David Cameron. The British example tells us that when people want political change, that political change also comes by way of political leadership change. And I think we need to understand that link better.

As for India, we are now the world's youngest nation. Our political leadership needs to reflect this aspect of our democracy. A political democracy survives by reincarnating legitimacy and renegotiating its social compact with people. On the question of age and political leadership, it must turn towards seeking younger people as political leaders. And these younger leaders should not come from established political families alone.

> Age is not the only criteria; the health and mental faculty of a leader is equally important. Unfortunately, we have no empirical evidence to point out a direct correlation between a nation's economic health and the age of its leadership
> **RAHUL VERMA**

RV: As per the available performance analysis of Indian parliamentarians, we know that younger leaders may not necessarily be better parliamentarians. Data shows that MPs above 60 years of age have 80% attendance in Parliament, while those below 40 have 73-74% average attendance. The older MPs ask far more questions in Parliament.

At the same time, I would add the caveat that age is not the only criteria; the health and mental faculty of a leader is equally important. Unfortunately, we have no empirical evidence to point at a direct correlation between a nation's economic health and the age of its leadership.

Some studies have pointed out that the governance models of younger leaders may vary drastically from that of an older leadership. There can be material differences in the decisions taken by a younger or an older leader. Younger leaders are much more likely to invest their budget in economic activities of job creation and infrastructure development, while their budgets for social welfare measures, especially health-related schemes, may be low. Younger leaders do govern differently, but one can't say if it is necessarily better.

Should there be a concrete law or regulatory mechanism to retire political leaders or to ensure that a leader who is facing mental or physical challenges steps down?

MP: There has been a lot of speculation around Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's health, especially after some of his television appearances. Even in the election season, his political statements were few and far between. Under the provisions of the Constitution, it would be perfectly legitimate for the Governor to seek a health report of the Chief Minister. People have a right to know if the health of the Chief Minister has been severely compromised. But in Mr. Kumar's case, it is unlikely that such a step will be taken. I do feel this is a mockery of democratic processes. And it is not only Bihar; we have seen numerous examples in the past from various States. In Tamil Nadu, the truth about former Chief Minister Jayalalithaa's health was concealed from the voters. The unfortunate reality is that in such cases, the people have to wait until the elections to force the change.

Though we never had a similar situation at the Centre, considering that the Prime Minister is always under the public glare, should we have a hard cut-off date for retirement? I am not sure. But we must have a transparent mechanism by way of which the electorate is kept informed about their leader's health. Here though, the greater responsibility is of the political parties. We could have a term limit for the Prime Minister and for Chief Ministers, though.

RV: Yes, it is desirable to have politicians who are in the best of health and are able to make sound decisions. But how do we achieve this end? Every solution to address this issue comes with its own set of problems. Prescribing a retirement age will also require creating structures that enable career progression in politics faster. That can't be done if we have fixed the minimum age to contest elections at 25 years. Over 8,000 candidates contested the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Less than 100 competitive candidates were below the age of 30. So just bringing in laws won't change any of this.

Even term limits are not exactly an effective solution. Look at the U.S. It has a term limit, yet we saw Joe Biden leading the country at 81 while struggling with cognitive issues. He was succeeded by Donald Trump, who is 79 years old. But as Professor Priyam says, there is a conversation across the globe about how the citizens are perhaps entitled to have access to health bulletins of their leaders. Though, again, this isn't exactly an elegant solution. What if the country is on the verge of a war or some kind of economic crisis? An adverse health bulletin of the leader would only add to panic in such a situation. It doesn't even have to be a catastrophic problem; even the markets could react badly if the medical bulletin of the leader is not good. So while it is desirable that no person should remain in office if they aren't mentally or physically fit, it cannot be regulated through legislation or any formal system.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

The icing on the cake while covering a sport

Reporting on sports tournaments across the world gives journalists the opportunity to explore multiple culinary worlds

N. Sudarshan

More than a decade ago, my professor at journalism school advised us to always carry a few chocolates or an energy bar while we were on the field. This was to counter the uncertain world of day-to-day reporting, where both availability of food and windows to eat are erratic.

However, I took up sports journalism, where a day is more structured. We know of events beforehand, and we usually cover a sport which has designated breaks for lunch and tea, and of late, even dinner. This has given us the opportunity to explore multiple culinary worlds. So much so that the lunch and tea spreads rank second in the list of our curiosities, just below the great sport itself.

There are those who consider catering at stadiums as an enabler and not a main event. It helps scribes do their jobs without having to worry about filling their stomachs. It is a complimentary service, not a right. But cricket in India – at least at a majority of the stadiums – has such good arrangements for food that it has become an integral part of our experience.

In this, I can say with authority – and can speak for a lot of others too – that Chennai and its iconic venue Chepauk ranks the best. It did when I worked there from 2012 to 2015, and it still did when I went back last year.

During IPL 2024, one favourite dish was kalan pattani milagu peratal (mushrooms and green peas cooked in crushed black pepper and onion masala). It was rich and layered, in line with its long name and elaborate explanation.

Bengaluru, my home city; Indore, widely regarded as the street food capital of India; and Ahmedabad, which I have visited often in the past two years, offer excellent spreads too.

In fact, cricket reporters regularly upload photos of 'today's menu' on social media platforms, and two enthusiastic journalists even started a web portal to document each venue and the food it had to offer.

A month ago, I landed in Leeds, United Kingdom, to cover the opening match of the ongoing five-match Test series between England and India. I had, of course, packed my usual set of ready-to-eat meals, but I was very much looking forward to the lunch and tea buffets at the famed cricket ground in Headingley.

Mac and cheese and one boiled vegetable welcomed me on day one. With that, my bubble, which had swollen disproportionately because of years of pampering, burst immediately.

The local press corps was upset with the cuisine too, and though things got better in the days ahead and the desserts were outstanding throughout, the first afternoon was a rough reminder that catering was indeed a service and not a right.

My colleagues from other Indian media houses, who had past experience of covering cricket in England, assured me that I would be better off in Birmingham, the venue for the second Test. The West Midlands city has a significant Asian population and I was desperate to see that rich diversity reflect in my plate.

The Industrial Revolution-era megapolis did not disappoint, with the first afternoon offering masala chickpea salad, Indian chopped salad, slow cooked carrots and broccoli, and home-made flavoured bread. To round it off, there was chocolate mint with chocolate mousse and egg custard tart, tickling my taste buds no end.

Wimbledon, my last stop of the work tour, was predictable but perfect. From the menu to the chefs to the counter-managers in the media cafeteria, nothing had changed much since my first visit in 2019. The world famous strawberries and cream was inflation-proof from 2010 to 2024 at £2.50, and rose by 20 pennies only this edition.

And like a champion tennis player's repeatable technique, the catering at the All England Club delivers every single time. A great service that everyone rightfully enjoys.

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK

Reaching for the stars

Astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla meets his son a day after returning to Earth from the International Space Station (ISS), at Houston, Texas. On June 25, Shukla lifted off with three other astronauts from NASA's Florida spaceport to the ISS as part of the Axiom-4 commercial mission. It was the first time an Indian was onboard the ISS and also the first time an Indian had gone to orbital space since Rakesh Sharma in 1984. PTI

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 18, 1975

Full utilisation of apprentice schemes planned

New Delhi, July 17: Steps will be taken to ensure fuller utilisation of the apprentice training schemes by the Union Labour Ministry. The Directorate General of Employment and Training will also launch immediately a vigorous drive for the utilisation of available training places for trade apprentices including the placement of graduate engineers and diploma holders in over 5,500 establishments covered under the Apprentices Act. The Government is also taking measures to give due representation to candidates from the rural population, the minorities and other weaker sections including the physically handicapped. To increase the placement of more apprentices nearly 40 additional trades are being designated in consultation with the Central Apprenticeship Council which is meeting here on July 31. At present out of nearly lakh training places located in these establishments nearly 66,000 apprentices are undergoing training giving an overall percentage of nearly 66. In the Central sphere out of about 31,000 seats about 21,000 are being utilised while in the State sphere, nearly 45,000 are being utilised against nearly 69,000 seats. The matter would also come up for discussion at the forthcoming State Labour Ministers' Conference. At a recently convened meeting of the Central Government Ministries it was decided to fully utilise the existing capacity and also to increase additional capacity to place maximum number of trainees under the apprentice schemes.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 18, 1925

Indian reforms

London, July 17: In an article on "The Government's offer to India", *The Spectator* reviews its suggestion made in March 1924, that representative men drawn from all classes and races of India should frame a draft constitution and submit it to the Government of India, who will advise the Imperial Government with regard to it. The paper says the constituent convention to whom the work should be entrusted of drafting a constitution on the lines laid down in its proposal of March last year, should consist solely of Indians.

From Page One

India warns U.S. against 'double standards'

The MEA's comments came in a possible reference to the fact that European Union members continue to procure oil, LNG, and pipeline gas from Russia despite the sanctions, and are also major buyers of processed products that go through Indian refineries, including Gujarat's Nayara Energies, which has minority control by Russia's ROSNEFT.

However, while Russia sells about half its oil exports to China, and about 38% to India (as of February 2025), it exports only about 6% to EU countries.

However, despite requests from Tehran, India has so far not reversed a decision taken under pressure from the first Trump administration in 2017, to stop all oil imports from Iran.

Talks on trade, tariffs, deportees

Amidst intense negotiations over tariffs, as well as market access to India, particularly in the areas of agriculture, dairy and genetically modified produce, New Delhi has also been coordinating with the U.S. government about the deportation of Indians illegally resident in the U.S.

On Thursday, Mr. Jaiswal said that 1,563 Indian nationals have been deported in the first six months of Mr. Trump's second tenure, from January 20 to July 15 this year.

According to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement statistics, 1,529 immigration violators were deported in 2024.

Bengaluru stampede: panel blames RCB, KSCA

Sources in the State government said an FIR will be registered against the police officers as well.

The report said that the organisers of the event had not taken permission from the police as per procedure. However, it said the police had "failed to stop the event knowing fully well that it was unauthorised and... was organised in haste without proper security arrangements".

It further observed that the police were found working on security arrangements (bandobust) under orders of the Commissioner of Police "apparently in collusion and in nexus with the organisers even before the activation of the arrangements by the organisers".

The report said organisers themselves triggered the stampede by not regulating entry into the gates and making reckless announcements with regard to the entry into the stadium.

The design and structure of the stadium was unsuitable and unsafe for mass gathering, the report said.

India in touch with 'friendly governments'

"This is a sensitive matter and the Government of India has been offering all possible assistance in the case. We have provided legal assistance and appointed a lawyer to assist the family. We have also arranged regular consular visits and been in constant touch with the local authorities and the family members to resolve the issue. This included concerted efforts in recent days to seek more time for the family of Ms. Priya," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

Reports had suggested that Kanthapuram A.P. Aboobacker Musliyar, a religious leader from Kerala, had played a role in getting the execution postponed. Asked about this, Mr. Jaiswal said: "As far as the role of the entity you mentioned, I have no information to share."

Ms. Priya, who hails from Kerala, had accused her business partner Talal Abdo Mahdi, a Yemeni citizen, of torturing her and witholding her passport. She was convicted of murdering him in 2017.

The Hindu had earlier reported that efforts were being made to convince the victim's family members to accept 'blood money' and refrain from insisting on Ms. Priya's execution, who has been on death row since 2018.

However, social media posts purportedly made by the victim's brother Abdul Fatah Mahdi indicate that the family is not willing to give up their demand for retribution as per Islamic law.

"The local authorities in Yemen have postponed carrying out her sentence scheduled for July 16, 2025. We continue to closely follow the matter and render all possible assistance. We are also in touch with some friendly governments," Mr. Jaiswal said.

India's embassy in Saudi Arabia has been the regional nodal centre for the protracted negotiation in this case.

Ahmedabad named cleanest big city in India

President Droupadi Murmu gave away the "Swachh Survekshan 2024-25" awards to the winners on Thursday.

The Uttar Pradesh government, Prayagraj Mela Authority and the Prayagraj Municipal Corporation were recognised for their exceptional urban waste management during the *Maha Kumbh*, the world's largest religious congregation, which witnessed an estimated footfall of 66 crore earlier this year.

One killed after an eviction drive in Assam turns violent

This was the second operation in Paikan Reserve Forest since July 12; police reportedly opened fire on settlers leaving 2 others injured; CM blames Rahul Gandhi for inciting people during rally

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Brick by brick: An excavator being used to demolish encroachments built inside the Paikan Reserve Forest area, in Goalpara district, during an earlier eviction drive on July 12. PTI

One person was killed and several others, including police personnel, were injured in firing during an eviction drive in the Paikan Reserve Forest in southwestern Assam's Goalpara district on Thursday morning.

District officials stated that a team of Assam Police and Forest Department personnel conducted the eviction drive in the 711-hectare forest as a follow-up to a similar operation in the area on July 12, during which some 140 hectares were cleared of encroachment.

"The Forest Department used an excavator to dig a channel as a barrier against encroachment bids in future. Nothing happened during the exercise yesterday (July 16), but the people attacked the team as soon as it arrived to resume work today," an official said.

The police reportedly opened fire on the people, mostly Bengali-speaking Muslims, after the situation spiralled out of control. One person was killed, and at least two others sustained injuries.

Officials said most of the settlers in the reserve forest were from Barpeta, Dhubri, and South Salmara-Mankachar districts, residing there without any valid land documents.

Reacting to the incident, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma blamed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for inciting the Goalpara forest encroachers during a political rally on Wednesday. He said cases would be registered against anyone attacking police personnel. "Our aim is to turn the land at Paikan into a forest," he said. More than 50,000 encroachers have been evicted from forest land, wetlands, wastelands, and other categories of government land since June, Mr. Sarma added.

ED files chargesheet in Haryana land deal case against Vadra

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Robert Vadra

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday filed a chargesheet against Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's husband, businessman Robert Vadra, in connection with a money laundering case related to a 3.53-acre land deal in Shikohpur village in Gurugram, Haryana, in 2008.

This is the first time that a probe agency has filed a prosecution complaint against Mr. Vadra, who is booked under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). He was questioned by the ED on three consecutive days in April.

Apart from Mr. Vadra, 11 individuals/entities, including Satyanand Yajee, Kewal Singh Virk, M/s Sky Light Hospitality Pvt. Ltd., M/s Onkareshwar Properties Pvt. Ltd., have been named as accused in the prosecution complaint filed in the Rouse Avenue Court on Thursday.

According to ED sources, the case stems from an FIR registered by the Gurugram Police in 2008, in which it was alleged that Mr. Vadra had fraudulently purchased 3.53 acres of land situated in Shikohpur village, Sector 83, Gurugram, through his entity M/s Sky Light Hospitality Pvt. Ltd. from M/s Onkareshwar Properties Pvt. Ltd for ₹7.5 crore. The police claimed that the purchase was made through a "false" declaration.

ED officials said a provisional attachment order was issued on the land on July 16 in which 43 immovable properties worth ₹37.64 crore linked to Mr. Vadra, his entities and others have been attached.

CISF trains with Army to combat security threats

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

In the aftermath of Operation Sindoor, the Union Home Ministry has enhanced security at vital installations across the country, including the Parliament building and nuclear plants.

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel deployed at the Parliament building are being trained with the Army to combat terrorist strikes, drone attacks and internal sabotage, a CISF official said on Thursday.

Their weapons will be upgraded in the coming days too, the official said. The training module of canine squads is also being changed.

The CISF took over Parliament security in June 2024 following a security breach in the new Parliament building on December 13, 2023. It replaced the Delhi Police and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). The Monsoon Session of Parliament begins on July 21.

The official said that the joint-training exercises with the Army will prepare the CISF to be "battle-ready" against unconventional and hybrid threats.

"The training with the Army will prepare the CISF personnel to respond swiftly to crises at high-risk installations such as airports, nuclear facilities, government buildings, and Parliament. The emphasis is on handling complex, high-pressure scenarios such as drone incursions, coordinated terrorist attacks, insider threats, and sabotage operations with speed, precision, and calm," the official said.

Critical sites surveyed

As part of the efforts to secure critical installations, the National Security Guard (NSG) also surveyed 17 religious sites, 21 nuclear installations and 14 sensitive locations recently.

Home Minister Amit Shah reviewed the security of such installations after Operation Sindoor and directed the CISF to train its personnel in the wake of emerging threats from Pakistan, the official said.

"For the first time, the CISF is conducting training at Indian Army formations in the Kashmir Valley...," the official added.

Akash Prime successfully tested in Ladakh by Army

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

On top: The Army carried out successful trials of the indigenously developed air defence system in Ladakh. X/DRDO

To further strengthen the air defence system, the Army has carried out successful trials of the indigenously developed air defence system "Akash Prime" in Ladakh.

A senior official confirmed that the Army Air Defence Corps conducted the trials in collaboration with senior scientists from the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), which developed the missile system.

The two-day trial was conducted at an altitude of over 15,000 feet in eastern Ladakh. The Akash Prime scored two direct hits on fast-moving aerial targets in the rarefied high-altitude atmosphere.

The latest version of the Akash system would form the third and fourth regiments of the Akash air defence systems in the Indian Army. The Akash air defence system is a medium-range, surface-to-air missile platform.

Prithvi-II and Agni-I

The Ministry of Defence on Thursday confirmed that short-range ballistic missiles – Prithvi-II and Agni-I – were successfully test-fired from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, Odisha.

The launches validated all operational and technical parameters. These tests were conducted under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command, added the Ministry.

NHRC seeks report on Haryana gang rape

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Thursday issued notice to the Haryana government and Railway Ministry in the case of a gang rape of a woman in an empty compartment of a stationary train in Panipat city of Haryana.

The victim was later thrown on the rail tracks by the perpetrators, where a train ran over her leg. She is being treated at a hospital after police found her on the railway tracks in Sonepat on the night of June 26.

Observing that the matter raises concerns on serious violation of human rights, the Commission issued notices to the Chairman, Railway Board, Ministry of Railways and the Director General of Police, Haryana calling for a detailed report on the matter within two weeks.

The report is expected to include the status of the health of the victim and compensation, if any, provided to her by the authorities.

FIRs over sheltering Tablighi attendees quashed by Delhi HC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The judgment came in response to 16 petitions.

The Delhi High Court on Thursday quashed 16 cases filed against 70 Indian nationals accused of sheltering foreign attendees of the Tablighi Jamaat congregation held in Nizamuddin in March 2020, allegedly in violation of COVID-19 restrictions.

"Chargesheets quashed," Justice Neena Bansal Krishna said, pronouncing the verdict. The judgment came in response to 16 petitions seeking quashing of FIRs registered against Indian citizens who had allegedly housed foreigners.

During first lockdown

At the time of announcement of the nationwide lockdown in March 2020, many people, including foreigners, who attended the religious congregation, were already dispersed in different parts of the country, while others stayed put at the Nizamuddin Markaz. A nationwide search operation was also carried out for those who had attended the religious congregation and left for different parts of the country.

The Delhi Police had opposed the petitions, arguing that the accused hosted foreign nationals in mosques and private residences despite prohibitory orders on movement and public gatherings.

However, the petitioners claimed there was no evidence to indicate that any of them were COVID-positive or had facilitated the spread of the virus. They contended that the accusations were baseless and exaggerated. While many foreign nationals pleaded guilty and were repatriated, others chose to contest the charges. All those who stood trial were acquitted or discharged.

Constitutional validity of UAPA upheld by High Court

Purnima Sah
MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court on Thursday dismissed the petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and also of Section 124A (sedition) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

A Division Bench comprising Justices A.S. Gadkari and Neela Gokhale held that the UAPA, in its current form, is constitutionally sound. The court rejected the 2021 petition filed by 46-year-old Anil Baburao Baile, a Mumbai resident, who was issued a notice by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in July 2020 in connection with the Elgar Parishad case.

He had challenged the validity of the UAPA, and Section 124A of the IPC, and prayed for a declaration of these laws as *ultra vires* and unconstitutional; and to quash and set aside the NIA notice issued to him.

The Bench found no merit in the arguments and dismissed the petition.

Prisoner admitted in private hospital shot dead in Patna

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

A prisoner out on parole was shot dead inside a private hospital in Patna on Thursday morning when four unidentified persons started indiscriminate firing.

According to the police, the deceased was Chandan Mishra, a resident of Buxar district and a dreaded criminal, imprisoned in Beur Jail in connection with a murder case.

The incident took place when Mishra was undergoing treatment at Paras Hospital. The assailants entered the building where he was hospitalised and opened fire. Four of five men were reported to have entered the hospital and the fifth one was waiting outside in a car.

The incident created panic among the hospital staff, patients and visitors.

Police officials, including Patna Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kartikeya K. Sharma, reached the spot soon after.

Asked about how bullets were fired at Mishra, the SSP stated: "We will only come to know after the post-mortem report but several rounds of shots were fired. Chandan Mishra has more than a dozen cases registered against him."

APPEAL

Baby Shashank Kourav, Hospital No. MH016935389, 04 Months Son of Mr. Prashant Kourav admitted Manipal Hospitals is diagnosed to be suffering from Heart disease, Truncus Arteriosus Type 1, RPA good sized, LPA not seen, Tricuspid Truncal Valve Doming, Grade 1 + Truncal Regurgitation and No/Mild Stenosis, severe PAH of Right Lung, good BVF, Right Arch. He requires to undergo Truncus Arteriosus Surgical Repair. The estimated cost of the Surgery is Rs.6,00,000/-.

Kindly send donation however small by Cheque/D.D/M.O Favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Shashank Kourav, **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. 9884607377, UPI Id: savepoorlives@oksbi. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. Contact No. 044-42044165 & 044-35691848, Mobile: 9884607377, Email: savepoorlives@gmail.com. Our website: www.savepoorlives.com.

Bihar households to get 125 units of free power: Nitish

Chief Minister says the move will benefit 1.67 crore families in the State; he announces installation of solar panels at public places or on the rooftops of people's houses with their consent in 3 years

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Ahead of the Assembly election, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Thursday announced free electricity up to 125 units for domestic consumers in the State.

"We have been providing electricity to everyone at affordable rates from the very beginning. Now we have decided that from August 1, that is, from the July bill itself, all domestic consumers in the State will not have to pay any money for electricity up to 125 units. This will benefit a total of 1.67 crore families in the State," Mr. Kumar said in a post on X.

The Chief Minister said that in the next three years, with the consent of all these domestic consumers, solar power panels will be installed on the rooftops of their houses or at nearby public places. Under the *Kutir Jyoti* scheme for extremely poor families, the State government will bear the entire cost of installing solar panels, and for the rest, the government will provide appropriate support.

> This means domestic consumers will no longer have to bear any cost for electricity up to 125 units, and at the same time, it is estimated that within the next three years, up to 10,000 megawatts of solar energy will be available in the State
>
> **NITISH KUMAR**
> Bihar Chief Minister

Solar energy

Explaining the benefits, Mr. Kumar said, "This means domestic consumers will no longer have to bear any cost for electricity up to 125 units, and at the same time, it is estimated that within the next three years, up to 10,000 megawatts of solar energy will be available in the State."

Free electricity is among the many announcements Mr. Kumar has made in poll-bound Bihar. On July 16, he asked the Education Department to lay the ground for the fourth instalment of the Teacher Recruitment Exam by the Bihar Public Service Commission, under which more than one lakh teachers would be hired.

On July 13, he promised to provide jobs and employment opportunities to one crore youth in the next five years. Last month, Mr. Kumar increased the pension under the Social Security Scheme for elderly persons, widows, and persons with disabilities from ₹400 to ₹1,100 a month.

The announcement comes against the backdrop of a similar promise made by the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD). In November 2024, RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav had promised to give 200 units of free electricity to consumers if voted to power in the State.

Taking a dig at the Chief Minister, RJD spokesperson Shakti Singh Yadav said Mr. Kumar had been forced to take this decision under pressure from Mr. Yadav. "If there is an Opposition leader like Tejashwi Yadav, the government will have to bow down. It was the promise of Tejashwi*ji* and now Nitish Kumar has announced. Our leader had promised to increase pension from ₹400 to ₹1,500 but Nitish*ji* increased it. Similarly, this government will also implement Tejashwi*ji*'s promise to give ₹2,500 monthly financial assistance to women under Mai-Bahin Samman Yojna," he said.

Roll revision a conspiracy to deprive Bihar residents of welfare schemes: RJD

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav on Thursday said the doubts that the Opposition INDIA bloc had about the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) in Bihar were proving to be right.

The remarks by the Leader of the Opposition in the Bihar Assembly came a day after the Election Commission (EC) said that over 35 lakh voters were not found at their addresses during the electoral roll revision drive in the State.

Mr. Yadav who was accompanied by other leaders of the INDIA bloc at his official residence, reiterated his allegation that the "EC was working at the behest of the ruling BJP". He said that through SIR, "not only are the rights of the people being snatched, but also their existence. There is a conspiracy to deprive them of all kinds of government welfare schemes by deleting their names from the voters' list". Lashing out at the EC, Mr. Yadav said a delegation of INDIA bloc leaders had also met the Election Commission officials in Delhi and Bihar but to no avail. Even the instructions of the Supreme Court are not being complied with by the poll body, he said.

Tejashwi Yadav

"This makes it clear that there is something fishy. Even after the advice of the Supreme Court, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar remained silent on this matter and he is engaged in the work given to him by (Home Minister) Amit Shah, this is dangerous for democracy. We will fight for the protection of justice and democracy at every level," Mr. Yadav said.

Meeting tomorrow

He said that on July 19, a meeting will be held at the residence of Congress national president Mallikarjun Kharge in Delhi, which he also attend.

Raising questions on the revision, Mr. Yadav said, "Three days ago, several newspapers reported that 35 lakh voters' names would be removed, quoting sources. On July 16, EC quoted the same figures. The question is, when the process is going on, how did the news of deletion of names of so many voters get disclosed when there are still eight days left for the SIR to conclude?"

Bihar Congress president Rajesh Kumar too alleged that names of voters were being selectively removed on the basis of their surnames.

Voter details being shared with political parties: EC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission of India on Thursday said that it has begun sharing information on voters who have permanently shifted their residence, died, or have enrolled at multiple places, with ground-level workers and district presidents of all political parties in Bihar so that the exact status of such voters can be confirmed before July 25, which is the last date of filling the enumeration forms in the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

So far, out of the 7,89,69,844 voters, 4.5% have not been found at their addresses, 1.59% are deceased, 0.73% are enrolled at multiple places, and 2.2% have been found to have permanently shifted, the poll body said in a statement.

Only 5.8% of voters are yet to submit their enumeration forms, the poll body said. So far, 7,08,18,162, or 89.7%, have submitted their forms.

Land-for-jobs case: Lalu moves SC to stay trial

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI:

Former Bihar Chief Minister Lalu Prasad has moved the Supreme Court against an order rejecting his plea for a stay of the trial in a land-for-jobs case probed by the Central Bureau of Investigation.

The case was listed for hearing on Friday. The case is related to Group D appointments made in the West Central Zone of the Railways, during his tenure as Railway Minister.

Scrap digital attendance system for MGNREGS workers, says Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Describing the system as "unworkable" and "counterproductive", the Congress on Thursday demanded that the digital capture of attendance of workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) must be withdrawn.

The Hindu had reported on Tuesday the Union Rural Development Ministry's directions on July 8 to the States, flagging the various ways the National Mobile Monitoring System, aimed at bringing in transparency, was being manipulated. Three years ago, the government had made it mandatory for all MGNREGS workers to use this platform for marking their attendance.

Uploading photographs

It required them to upload their photographs twice a day at the worksite.

It was found that to meet this requirement, irrelevant photographs were being uploaded, among other discrepancies.

"FAST is the self-declared motto of the Modi Government. It actually stands for First Announce Second Think," Congress general secretary (Communications) Jairam Ramesh said in a statement. Since its introduction, Mr. Ramesh said the Congress has highlighted the operational problems with the NMMS and the government's July 8 notification was a final "acknowledgement" of the problem.

The NMMS, Mr. Ramesh said, ended up excluding many genuine workers because of Internet connectivity and other reasons without effectively checking the fake workers since they can go twice a day to be photographed, get paid without working for a minute.

Engaging the administration from top to bottom to verify the photos is going to waste the precious time of MGNREGS functionaries. He demanded that the government must affirm "task-based payments", which is the essence of MGNREGS.

Drift in India's foreign policy a matter of concern: Cong.

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Thursday accused the government of departing from India's traditional position on foreign policy matters without consulting Parliament and said it is time for recalibration, honest introspection and course correction to "reclaim the country's stature globally".

The party also alleged that the government was weakening national consensus on the country's foreign policy, claiming that it has lowered and weakened the country's position globally, and demanded a comprehensive discussion on the issue in both Houses of Parliament.

The Opposition party calls for course correction to 'reclaim the country's stature globally'

The party took strong exception to India abstaining on the UN Resolution on Gaza ceasefire, claiming this was not just unfortunate, but a painful and unacceptable decision.

"There's a matter of serious concern: that is a drift in our foreign policy – a visible decline of India's influence in the world and the very fact that there had been fundamental departures to the detriment of India's standing in the comity of nations at the United Nations," Congress leader Anand Sharma said at a press conference.

The senior leader also said the Indo-U.S. trade agreement should be done keeping national interest foremost and no trade pact should be done under pressure.

PAC flags Aadhaar biometric verification failure, seeks review

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Such failures lead to wrongful exclusion of beneficiaries from welfare programmes, says House panel

Parliament's Public Accounts Committee has called for a review of the functioning of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), flagging several concerns, including the high rate of failure of Aadhaar biometric verification which can lead to many beneficiaries being excluded from social welfare schemes.

At its meeting on Thursday, the committee, headed by senior Congress leader K.C. Venugopal, received a briefing from the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) team, which produced a 2021 report on the UIDAI. The panel also listened to oral evidence from officials of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, and the UIDAI. "This is a common man's issue. We flagged various problems and have raised several questions," Mr. Venugopal told presspersons.

Serious issue

Across party lines, the MPs on the committee pointed out that biometric verification failure is a serious issue since the majority of the government's social welfare schemes are tied directly to Aadhaar. This has led to many eligible beneficiaries being prevented from receiving food rations or jobs, because their biometric data no longer matches the UIDAI record.

The UIDAI officials, according to sources, explained that in many cases of people doing hard labour, their fingerprints are not read properly by the machines. In the case of elderly people, there is often a failure in matching iris patterns. However, the officials also insisted that the UIDAI is constantly upgrading its systems to address these challenges.

Sources said that several MPs also cited various reports to underline the dangers of data leaks. The UIDAI officials claimed that their investigations have shown that whatever leak has been reported has come from the enrolment centres.

Some estimates suggest that there are more Aadhaar cards currently in use than the total population of the country, indicating possible duplications as well as delays in deactivating the cards of the deceased.

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र / VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण ग्रुप / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
तिरुवनंतपुरम / THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – 22 / (फोन नं. / Ph. No. 0471 – 2564568 / 4545 / 5669 / 4537)

दिनांक/Dated : 17-07-2025

ई-निविदा की अवधि बढ़ाना / EXTENSION OF E-TENDER

टर्ल्स, वीएसएससी के द्रवचलित दाब परीक्षण सुविधा के लिए वातानुकूलन कार्य / Air-conditioning works for Hydraulic Pressure Test Facility at TERLS, VSSC, NIT No. VSSC/CMG/A01/03/2025-2026 Dated 23.06.2025 **(पी.ए.सी./P.A.C.: ₹ 26.80 लाख/Lakhs)**
डाउनलोड करने की अवधि/Period for downloading: दिनांक 22.07.2025 को 23:00 बजे तक बढ़ाए गए/ Extended upto 23:00 hrs. on 22.07.2025

इच्छुक निविदाकार ब्यौरों के लिए www.tenderwizard.in/isro या www.isro.gov.in देखें। Interested tenderers may visit www.tenderwizard.in/isro or www.isro.gov.in for details.

Sd/- ग्रुप निदेशक / Group Director, सीएमजी, वीएसएससी / CMG,VSSC

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (जिला), आं.प्र. / SRIHARIKOTA - 524124

संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE

ई–निविदा सूचना सं./ e- Tender Notice No: CMG/C/CON/258707_258708_258709_258710_258711 तिथि/ Date. 15/07/2025

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, निम्नलिखित कार्यों के लिए ई–निविदा के माध्यम से मद दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं:–

1. "पीसीएन कॉलोनी, सुल्लूरुपेट में मल जल उपचार संयंत्र के लिए सिविल कार्य (1 एमएलडी सामर्थ्य)" **(Rs.214 लाख)**
2. "वीएबी, एसएलपी, सतीश धवन अंतरिक्ष केंद्र शार में संविरचनात्मक मरम्मत, बाह्य रंगाई–पुताई तथा विविध सिविल कार्य" **(Rs.335 लाख)**
3. "अड़यार अतिथि गृह, चेन्नै में विविध सिविल कार्य (सिविल नवीकरण कार्य आदि)" **(Rs.139 लाख)**
4. "एसडीएससी शार में कीपाकम परिसर हेतु सुरक्षा प्रबंधन (आरआर चिनाई चहार दीवार)" **(Rs.175 लाख)**
5. "सतीश धवन अंतरिक्ष केंद्र शार के एफएलपी परिसर में यूएसपीएफ भवन का संवर्धन" **(Rs.60 लाख)**

बिक्री हेतु अंतिम तिथि (निविदा दस्तावेज **25/07/2025** को **14:30** बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं)। इच्छुक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट **www.isro.gov.in** या **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** देखें।

On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for following works:

1. **"Civil works for Sewage Treatment Plant (1 MLD Capacity) at PCN Colony, Sullurpeta" (Rs.214 Lakhs).**
2. **"Structural repairs, External Painting and misc.. civil works at VAB, SLP, SDSC SHAR" (Rs.335 Lakhs).**
3. **"Miscellaneous Civil works (Civil renovation works etc) at Adyar Guest House, Chennai" (Rs.139 Lakhs).**
4. **"Security Arrangement for Keepakam Complex (RR masonry compound wall) at SDSC SHAR" (Rs.175 Lakhs).**
5. **"Augmentation of USPF Building at FLP Complex, SDSC SHAR" (Civil works) (Rs.60 Lakhs).**

Last date for sale (Tender documents can be downloaded) upto **25/07/2025**, **14:30** hrs. Interested tenderer may visit **www.isro.gov.in** or **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** for details.

हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone: 080-22265383
Website: www.kiadb.in Email: ceoem@kiadb.in

No. KIADB/COF/Audit/7063/2025-26 **Date: 17.07.2025**

Short term Tender notification inviting bids from Chartered Accountant (CA) / Cost Accountants (CMA) Firms/Companies/ Associates for preparation of Capital Receivables & Payables of the Board in digitized form for the period ending 31st December 2025.

The Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) invite proposals/offers through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from Chartered Accountant (CA) / Cost Accountants (CMA) Firms/Companies/ Associates for preparation of Capital Receivables & Payables of the Board in digitized form for the period ending **31st December 2025**. The Chartered Accountant (CA) / Cost Accountants (CMA) Firms/Companies/ Associates who have not registered in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal should register before participating through the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The copies of the Tender documents can be downloaded from Karnataka Public Procurement Portal consisting of qualification criteria along with terms and conditions of contract to be complied with.

The bids shall to be uploaded through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only. Last date for submission of bids is on or before **2nd August 2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**

For details, viz registration, user manual for bid submission, visit Karnataka Public Procurement Portal website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact e-procurement Help Desk No.080-46010000/ 080-68948777.

Sd/-
Controller of Finance, KIADB

DIPR/CP/1889/Zen/2025-26

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF KERALA)
Head Office : Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram-14,
(Telephone No. 0471-2945600, 2945646)
E-mail : edrugs.kmscl@kerala.gov.in,
website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616

No.KMSCL/ED/7-RT/2025 **Date : 16.07.2025**

RE-TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are invited from manufacturers/direct importers / loan licensees on behalf of Department of Health, Govt of Kerala for the procurement of following categories of drugs / supplies for the year 2025-26.

Sl. No.	Tender No. and Date	Category	No. of Items
1.	KMSCL/ED/I&II/RT/2025/018 dtd. 16.07.2025	Drugs	76
2.	KMSCL/ED/III-VIII/RT/2025/019 dtd. 16.07.2025	Consumables & Surgical items	29
3.	KMSCL/ED/SPL/RT/2025/020 dtd. 16.07.2025	Specialty Drugs	16
4.	KMSCL/ED/ACD/RT/2025/021 dtd. 16.07.2025	Anti Cancer Drugs	07

Schedule of dates

	Date	Time
Pre-bid Meeting over Online Platform	18.07.2025	11.00am.
Last date of online uploading of tenders	25.07.2025	05.00pm.
Date of technical bid opening	28.07.2025	11.00am.onwards

Tenders shall be downloaded and submitted online through the e-tender portal **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**.

(Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR (Tender Inviting Authority)

INBRIEF

Back on earth, Shukla begins rehabilitation programme

Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla, who returned to earth on July 15 after spending 18 days in the International Space Station as part of the Axiom Mission 4, is undergoing a week-long rehabilitation programme to mitigate any adverse effects of microgravity. "This is being administered by Axiom's flight surgeon and ISRO's flight surgeon is also participating in this programme. This includes a series of medical checks, especially cardiovascular assessments, musculoskeletal tests, and psychological debriefings. The activities focus on monitoring physical and mental health and preparing him for a return to normal activities," the ISRO said.

Indian Navy's eastern fleet ships reach Singapore

Indian naval ships *Delhi*, *Satpura*, *Shakti*, and *Kiltan* arrived in Singapore to a warm welcome from the Singapore Navy and the Indian High Commission. According to the Indian Navy, the visit is part of its operational deployment to Southeast Asia and aims to strengthen maritime ties with Singapore through various engagements and activities. Naval Ships reached under the Command of RAdm Susheel Menon, Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet. Interactions with the Republic of Singapore Navy, discussions with academia and engagements with the community, that reflect the shared values of both nations are planned, the Indian Navy added.

Amarnath Yatra put on hold as landslide leaves three injured

The landslide occurred at Z-mode near Upper Rail Patri; urgent restoration work is under way, with BRO teams deployed on the tracks

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

The annual Amarnath Yatra was suspended on Thursday morning following a landslide on the Baltal route in central Kashmir's Ganderbal. Three pilgrims were injured.

An official said the landslide occurred at Z-mode near Upper Rail Patri.

The landslide swept away several other pilgrims who were on the way to the cave shrine, located at an altitude of 14,000 feet. They were rescued.

An official said the yatra had been suspended along both the Pahalgam route in south Kashmir's Anantnag and the Baltal route following heavy rain over the past two days.

"Rain has necessitated restoration work to be carried out on tracks along both routes. The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has made heavy deployment of its men and machinery on the tracks to complete the work before yatra can be resumed from the two base camps on July 18," a government spokesperson said.

Army personnel rescue a pilgrim stranded due to heavy rainfall and landslides during the Amarnath Yatra in J&K. PTI

Over 2.47 lakh have already paid obeisance at the holy cave shrine since the pilgrimage started

Work in progress

The spokesperson said urgent repairs and maintenance works were under way on the tracks. "No movement was allowed towards the holy cave from the two base camps today. However, the pilgrims who stayed at the Panjtarni camp on the preceding night are being allowed to proceed down to Baltal under adequate deployment of BRO and mountain rescue teams," the spokesperson said.

Over 2.47 lakh pilgrims have already paid obeisance at the holy cave shrine since the pilgrimage started on July 3.

Air India crash probe focuses on actions of captain, says report

Reuters

A cockpit recording of dialogue between the two pilots of the Air India flight that crashed last month indicates the captain cut the flow of fuel to the plane's engines, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on Wednesday.

The newspaper cited people familiar with U.S. officials' early assessment of evidence uncovered in the investigation into the June 12 crash in Ahmedabad that killed 260 people.

The first officer, who was flying the Boeing 787 Dreamliner, asked the more experienced captain why he moved the fuel switches to the "cutoff" position seconds after lifting off the runway, the report said. The two pilots involved were captain Sumeet Sabharwal and first officer Clive Kunder.

A preliminary report released by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) on Saturday said the fuel switches had switched from run to cutoff a second apart just after take-off, but it did not say how they were flipped.

One pilot was heard on the cockpit voice recorder asking the other why he cut off the fuel. "The other pilot responded that he did not do so," the report said.

The remains of the crashed Air India Boeing 787-8.

Without fuel flowing to the engines, the London-bound plane began to lose thrust. After reaching a height of 650 feet, the plane began to sink.

The fuel switches for both engines were turned back to run, and the plane automatically tried restarting the engines, the report said. But the plane was too low and too slow to be able to recover, aviation safety expert John Nance said.

On Thursday, the AAIB said it was too early to reach any "definite conclusions" on what led to the crash. "We urge both the public and the media to refrain from spreading premature narratives that risk undermining the integrity of the investigative process," AAIB chief G.V.G Yugandhar said, adding that the investigation is still not complete.

'Bhopal gas leak victims have been misclassified'

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

A petition filed by the Bhopal gas disaster victims' rights groups claiming that survivors with lasting, severe injuries and illnesses have been wrongly classified under the category of 'temporary disablement' and 'minor injury' and under-compensated for years has been lined up for hearing in the Supreme Court.

The petition filed by organisations such as the Bhopal Gas Peedit Mahila Purush Sangharsh Morcha urged the top court to direct the Centre to identify these "misclassified" victims and classify them correctly under the provisions of the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of Claims) Act, 1985 so that they receive adequate compensation to cover their medical treatment.

"... Union Carbide's internal document had stated that in cases of inhalation of Methyl Isocyanate, 'major residual injury is likely'... This plea seeks to enforce that responsibility of the Centre, pointing out a certain category of cases in which the damages awarded and paid to be manifestly unjust and arbitrary," the petition submitted.

SC reverses its judgment, grants custody of 'anxious' child to mother

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

A child's anxiety over separation from his mother stirred the Supreme Court into reviewing its own judgment in a custody case.

A 2024 judgment of the top court had confirmed a Kerala High Court decision to shift the custody of the child permanently from the mother to the biological father. The mother had remarried after the couple's divorce over a decade ago, and was lately intending to move abroad.

The father had moved the High Court, seeking custody of the child. The High Court concluded the move abroad would upend the 12-year-old boy's stable life, and he ought to stay back in India with his father. The top court had confirmed the High Court decision on appeal.

The court acknowledged the child had been in exclusive care of the mother since infancy.

Seeking a review of the judgment, the mother, represented by senior advocate Liz Mathew and advocate Vishnu Sharma A.S., said she had been the primary caregiver of the child since his infancy. The boy had hardly known his father. They had met only during occasional visits over the years.

The mother submitted that the child had been deeply impacted by the top court's judgment. He had since been exhibiting "anxiety and fears, with a high risk for separation anxiety disorder". She produced evaluation reports from the Christian Medical College, Vellore, to this effect. Ms. Mathew argued that the new evidence was a compelling circumstance to entertain the review petition and set aside the judgment.

In an open court hearing, which was itself a rare occurrence, a Bench headed by Justice Vikram Nath agreed with Ms. Mathew. The court concluded its judgment did indeed have a "calamitous effect" on the mental health of the boy.

Justice Nath, who authored the judgment, acknowledged the child had been in the exclusive care of the mother since infancy.

The court said the stepfather had also provided a "shield of affection" for the child.

"The minor child in question is presently 12 years old and at the cusp of adolescence. The factors defining the best interests of a child are multiple and range from quality education, a nurturing family environment, healthy worldly experiences, provision of basic amenities of life, meeting of financial requirements, access to a friendly social system, to imparting of spiritual and cultural learnings. The list is naturally not an exhaustive one. However, the essential feature is that a secure, supportive and loving family forms the bedrock of a healthy childhood," the court said.

Granting the biological father visitation rights, the court said he must not make any crude remarks to the child, which may impact the latter's well-being.

Raziyya Sultan, Nur Jehan dropped from new Class 8 history textbook

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

New textbooks follow the philosophy of National Education Policy, says official

Influential women icons Raziyya Sultan, who once ruled the Delhi Sultanate, and Nur Jehan, from the Mughal era, have been omitted from the new Class 8 National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) social science textbook introduced from the current academic year (2025-26).

While students earlier learnt about the Delhi Sultanate and the Mughals in Class 7, the new Class 7 textbook culminate before the 12th century timeline. This content has now been included in part one of the new Class 8 textbook.

In the older textbook, two chapters – one on the Delhi Sultanate and another on the Mughals – were taught in the Class 7 book *Our Pasts - II*. It had a section dedicated to the story of Raziyya Sultan, daughter of Sultan Iltutmish. A similar chapter in the new Class 8 textbook omits her mention. In the old book, Raziyya, who became the ruler (Sultan) in 1236 and continued her reign till 1240, had been described as more "able" and "qualified" than all her brothers.

The new Class 8 textbook that features the Delhi Sultanate and the Mughals in chapter two, *Reshaping India's Political Map*, does not mention any women ruler or queen of the time. For instance, it also omits the mention of Emperor Jahangir's wife Nur Jehan, who in the old textbook had been referred to as having "influence in Jahangir's court". The old textbook also stated that silver coins were "struck in the name of the Queen Begum Nur Jehan" and seals were issued in her name. Messages inscribed on the seals granted her the status of an equal to Emperor Jahangir, the book said.

In the chapter on Mughals in the new textbook, references to Rani Durgavati, queen of Garha Kingdom, one of the Gond kingdoms in central India, have been freshly added. It mentions that she "led her troops and fought bravely", against Mughal Emperor Akbar's attempts to attack her kingdom in 1564.

In chapter three, *The Rise of the Marathas,* a section titled "Mighty Maratha Women", mentions Tarabai as a "fearless warrior queen", who resisted Emperor Aurangzeb's expansion efforts. She has been called "the architect of the northward Maratha expansion".

Michel Danino, NCERT's Curricular Area Group head for social science textbooks, told *The Hindu* that a section on Begum Hazrat Mahal of Awadh had been included in chapter four - *The Colonial Era in India*. She has been called a "heroine", who joined "the rebels during the 1857 uprising."

No mention of Tipu

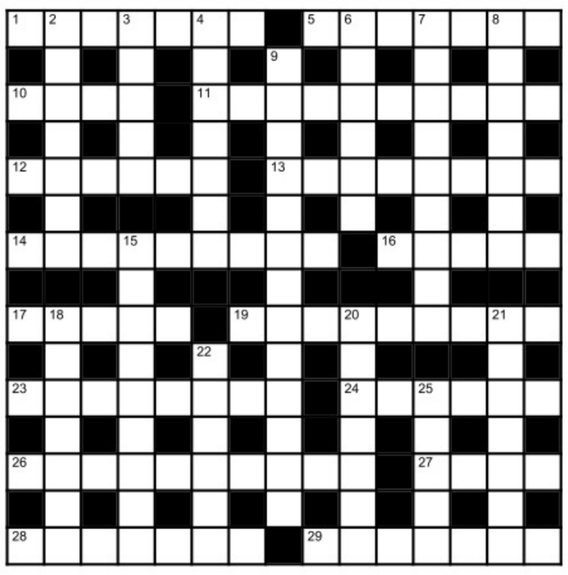
References to Mysore ruler Tipu Sultan and his predecessor Haidar Ali have been removed. "It is important to understand that the new textbooks are not modelled on the old ones because the new books follow the new educational philosophy of the National Education Policy 2020 and the National Curriculum Framework 2023," Mr. Danino said.

TH CROSSWORD + 14540

(set by Avtaar)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Movie choice announced - "Old town in Tennessee's outskirts" (7)
5 Foot fragments outside entrance to Harappan digs (7)
10 Like to go on reading (4)
11 Egg stored in box is close to first drawer (10)
12 University taken over by government is bust (6)
13 Luncheon's organised without entree? That is unusual (8)
14 Lawyer's restraint binding banks in suit (9)
16 Weld aluminium counter holding bucket with long handle (5)
17 School tournament's finale followed by every one (5)
19 Open platform in disused craft leaked, leaving shores of Latvia (9)
23 Country doctor participating in a cricket match, entertained by accountant (8)
24 Unsound regulation adopted by leading Central bank (6)
26 Spooner's cooks look for drink (6,4)
27 Bird's stomach opening out (4)
28 Mike distributed sheet describing promo (7)
29 Kant's original perception about new religious scripture of fundamental importance (7)

Down

2 Avtaar's joining new English cadet for beverage (4,3)
3 Card-sharp wins nothing (5)
4 Condition of insects about to be freed (7)
6 Somewhere near a field, German's hidden (6)
7 Exercise routine in Shetland Islands almost completely performed without trellises, essentially (9)
8 Say, Chicago's problem taken up by leader of Indiana state in US (7)
9 Saw open rifle shot clipping head of Connery in "The Man Who Would Be King" (6,2,5)
15 Covered with hard stones all over, fencing of castle keeps bulging, basically (4-5)
18 One-time rich model (7)
20 Insist on measure supporting church (7)
21 Idiot stealing the lady's smoking thingy (7)
22 Keep commercial now (6)
25 Top of arching, mostly inclined projection on stage (5)

SUDOKU

		6				2		
3				1		4		8
	4		2		5			
			6			5		3
			1		8			
1		2			4			
			7		2		6	
2		3		5				7
		9				8		

No.SS6584 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

G	U	T	S	W	T	M	H							
S	U	P	E	R	N	O	V	A	W	R	I	T	E	
T	R	E	R	T	E	S	R							
R	I	O	N	E	R	V	E	C	E	N	T	R	E	
I	A	C	E	R	R	S								
N	A	R	W	H	A	L	S	T	A	T	E	L	Y	
G	C	K	N	A										
S	E	L	F	O	P	I	N	I	O	N	A	T	E	D
I	A	N	U	I										
S	I	G	H	T	E	D	S	A	N	C	T	U	S	
I	A	I	E	C	O	T								
T	U	T	T	I	F	R	U	T	T	I	B	A	R	
U	U	S	E	O	A	O	U							
P	E	R	I	L	C	O	U	R	T	E	O	U	S	
S	E	E	T	T	E	T	T							

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

7	6	1	9	5	3	8	4	2
8	4	9	6	1	2	3	7	5
2	3	5	4	8	7	6	9	1
6	8	4	3	9	1	5	2	7
1	9	7	2	6	5	4	3	8
5	2	3	8	7	4	9	1	6
9	5	2	1	4	8	7	6	3
3	7	6	5	2	9	1	8	4
4	1	8	7	3	6	2	5	9

FAITH

Keeping good company

When the Pandavas leave for the forest, the people of Hastinapura follow them, said Kidambi Narayanan in a discourse. They discuss the injustice done to the Pandavas, despite the presence of learned men like Drona in the royal court. They tell the Pandavas that success and failure are common in a war. But an enemy should not win by unfair means. The Kauravas have resorted to underhand means to defeat Yudhishthira in a game of dice. The citizens of Hastinapura do not want to remain in a city which is ruled by an unjust king. There are two kinds of people who do wicked things. Some are intrinsically wicked, like Dritharashtra and Duryodhana. Some sin because of circumstances. Bhishma, Drona and Vidura belong to the latter category.

Having been with the Kauravas, they cannot abandon them suddenly, even when they know that Duryodhana is guilty of unforgivable sins. Having enjoyed the patronage of Dritharashtra for many years, how can they turn against him, when he needs them? So they stay back with the Kauravas. But Hastinapura residents give reasons for their decision to leave the city. We acquire the characteristics of those whose company we keep. If you add fragrant flowers to a pot of water, the water begins to smell good too. The people argue that they must be with righteous people like the Pandavas. If they stay back in a city ruled by Duryodhana, they too will begin to think and act like him, casting dharma away, and behaving selfishly. We should seek the company of educated people, the elderly whose experience we can benefit from, those with good qualities, those engaged in tapas and those with self-control.

INBRIEF

DLF forays into Mumbai with premium housing project

DLF Ltd., India's largest real estate company in terms of market cap, on Thursday announced its entry into Mumbai with the unveiling of a residential real estate project in the premium segment in Andheri West, a Mumbai suburb. The Westpark, spread across 5.18 acres, is part of a larger 10-acre master plan. "We are getting the legacy of lifestyle and amenities into Mumbai. We will keep sustainability at the core," said Aakash Ohri, Joint MD and Chief Business Officer.

Hexaware buys SMC Squared for $120 mn to up GCC play

Hexaware Technologies has acquired SMC Squared, a player in building global capability centres (GCCs), in a cash deal of $120 million to enhance its GCC presence in India, as per a filing. The GCC segment was experiencing exponential growth in the country, with the market projected to exceed $100 billion by 2030. "This presents a significant opportunity for Hexaware to expand its footprint and deepen its capabilities in this space," Hexaware said in the filing.

RRP Defence partners CYGR to produce drones in India

RRP Defence Ltd., through its dedicated entity Vimananu Ltd., has entered into a tie-up with French-American aerospace firm CYGR to set up a drone manufacturing facility in India under the 'Make in India' initiative. "This partnership aims to deliver advanced drone systems designed for tactical, surveillance, and industrial use – leveraging French-American technology and Indian manufacturing capability," RRP Defence said. The facility will be located in Navi Mumbai.

Axis Bank Q1 net profit slips 4% to ₹5,806 cr. on higher provisions

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Axis Bank reported a 4% decline in Q1 net profit at ₹5,806 crore from ₹6,035 crore in the year-earlier period on account of higher provisioning.

Net interest income (NII) during the period grew 1% to ₹13,560 crore.

Net interest margin (NIM) for the quarter stood at 3.80%. Operating cost grew 2% YoY in Q1 FY26.

Provision and contingencies for the quarter stood at ₹3,948 crore as compared with ₹2,039 crore in the year-earlier period. Specific loan loss provisions stood at ₹3,900 crore.

The bank holds cumulative provisions (standard + additional other than NPA) of ₹11,760 crore at the end of the quarter.

The bank said prudent application of technical parameters for recognising slippages and consequent upgrades impacted reported asset quality parameters including provisions and contingencies for the quarter.

Axis Bank said technical impact was largely restricted to cash credit and overdraft products and one-time settled accounts.

"₹821 crore of provisions and contingencies debited to the profit and loss account is attributable to technical impact. Provisions and contingencies adjusted for technical impact is ₹3,127 crore," the private sector lender said.

Wipro Q1 net profit rises 10%

Revenue from operations inch up 0.8% YoY to ₹22,134.6 crore; IT major's board declares interim dividend of ₹5 per share; Revenue numbers signal soft patch in global IT services market: Gartner

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Wipro on Thursday reported a 10.9% increase in its Q1 net profit at ₹3,336.5 crore, up from ₹3,036.6 crore a year ago. Revenue from operations grew 0.8% to ₹22,134.6 crore during the quarter from ₹21,963.8 crore in the year earlier period.

Revenue declined 2.3% year-on-year in constant currency terms. Operating margin was at 17.3%, marking an expansion of 0.8% YoY and earnings per share (EPS) grew 10.8%.

IT services revenue was $2.58 billion, a decrease of 0.3% and 1.5% sequentially and annually, respectively.

"In a quarter shaped by

> Certainly there is uncertainty in the markets as the geopolitical situation and tariff issues continue. Clients are getting to be resilient
>
> **SRINI PALLIA,** CEO & MD, Wipro

macroeconomic uncertainty, clients prioritised efficiency and cost optimisation. We partnered closely with them to address these needs, resulting in 16 large deals, including two mega deals. Building on the momentum from last quarter and supported by a strong pipeline, we are well positioned for the second half," CEO and MD Srini Pallia said in his commentary.

Wipro in Q1 reported large deal bookings at $2.7 billion, a 131% jump YoY and the quarter saw overall bookings at over $5 billion.

Chief Financial Officer Aparna Iyer said Wipro expanded operating margins in the quarter by 80 basis points on a YoY basis. Its cash flow conversion remained strong, with operating cash flows being at 123% of the net income.

"The board also declared an interim dividend of ₹5 per share. With this, the total cash returned to shareholders over the last 6 months is more than $1.3 bn," she said.

Shubham Rathore, Principal Analyst at Gartner, said Wipro's Q1 revenue numbers signalled a soft patch in the global IT services market.

On Wipro's AI push, Mr. Pallia said, "AI is no longer experimental, it is not a niche anymore." Wipro has developed over 200 AI agents in partnership with hyperscalers, which operate autonomously in functions such as HR, finance, legal and project delivery.

Wipro also said it had plans to hire 10,000 freshers in FY26 from various campuses.

Zoho unveils slew of AI-driven platforms

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Zia LLM is equipped with automatic speech recognition capability for English and Hindi

Zoho, a Chennai-based technology company, on Thursday unveiled a slew of AI platforms, including Zia LLM, an AI-powered large language model with automatic speech recognition capability for English and Hindi.

Zia LLM was built completely in-house by leveraging NVIDIA's AI-accelerated computing platform, Zoho said.

"Our LLM model is trained specifically for business use cases, keeping privacy and governance at its core, which has resulted in lowering the inference cost, passing on that value to the customers, while also ensuring that they can utilise AI productively and efficiently," explained Mani Vembu, CEO, Zoho.

Textile exports fall 2.07% in June

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

Textiles exports declined 2.07% in June 2025 compared with the same month in the previous year, even as exporters expressed hope that there would be more orders in the coming months.

For April-June 2025, textile exports shrank 0.94% as against the same period last year. Apparel exports registered a 1.23% growth in June compared with June 2024 and 8.91 % growth for April-June 2025 compared with the same period last year.

Total exports of yarn and apparel in June was 0.61% lesser than that of the same month in the previous year.

Industry officials said the decline in textile exports was expected mainly because of the uncertainties in the international market. There is still no clarity on the tariffs by the U.S. on Indian products and this had impacted exports, they said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	82,259	-0.45
US Dollar	86.12	-0.23
Gold	98,670	-0.20
Brent oil	69.07	1.32

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2616.60	8.10
Adani Ports	1452.50	-4.20
Apollo Hosp	7350.50	-2.00
Asian Paints	2398.90	-11.60
Axis Bank	1159.80	-8.60
Bajaj Auto	8330.00	27.50
Bajaj Finserv	2026.50	-9.50
Bajaj Finance	923.30	1.55
Bharat Elec	404.20	-1.95
Bharti Airtel	1929.90	-6.70
Cipla	1482.40	6.60
Coal India	385.90	-0.55
Dr Reddys Lab	1263.10	3.70
Eicher Motors	5650.00	23.50
Eternal Ltd.	259.65	-2.70
Grasim Ind	2766.30	3.90
HCL Tech	1543.90	-18.90
HDFC Bank	1986.90	-9.40
HDFC Life	751.80	-4.15
Hero MotoCorp	4443.60	19.10
Hindalco	674.55	7.80
Hind Unilever	2509.80	-7.80
ICICI Bank	1418.70	-7.70
IndusInd Bank	865.10	-14.65
Infosys	1583.50	-24.40
ITC	423.95	-0.65
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	318.15	-1.40
JSW Steel	1034.20	4.40
Kotak Bank	2170.80	-8.60
L&T	3474.00	-29.80
M&M	3195.00	-1.50
Maruti Suzuki	12476.00	-88.00
NestleIndia	2449.10	-10.90
NTPC	342.65	0.20
ONGC	243.87	1.02
PowerGrid Corp	296.60	-0.45
Reliance Ind	1476.40	-9.20
SBI Life	1802.80	-26.30
State Bank	829.00	-2.70
Shriram Finance Ltd.	665.45	-2.90
Sun Pharma	1703.40	2.40
TataConsumerProduct	1105.80	24.30
Tata Motors	681.70	2.70
Tata Steel	159.90	2.57
TCS	3209.20	-23.90
Tech Mahindra	1563.70	-44.20
Titan	3433.30	16.00
Trent Ltd.	5417.50	35.50
UltraTech Cement	12495.00	42.00
Wipro	260.60	-2.20

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 17

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.88	86.20
Euro	99.46	99.83
British Pound	115.06	115.49
Japanese Yen (100)	57.73	57.95
Chinese Yuan	11.96	12.00
Swiss Franc	106.72	107.13
Singapore Dollar	66.72	66.98
Canadian Dollar	62.40	62.63
Malaysian Ringitt	20.20	20.32
Australian Dollar	55.49	55.70

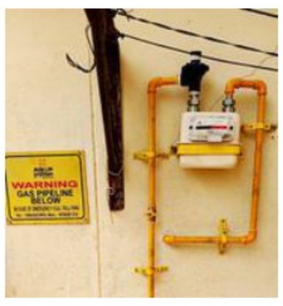
Source:Indian Bank

PNGRB asks city gas firms to supply piped gas to all households at uniform rate

N. Ravi Kumar
HYDERABAD

The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) directed city gas distribution (CGD) entities to supply piped natural gas at a uniform rate to all domestic household consumers, irrespective of daily consumption levels.

The oil regulator said this while taking note of a telescopic pricing structure for the gas supply to domestic consumers that certain CGD entities were implementing in which the per standard cubic metre (SCM) price of the commodity escalated as consumption crossed a predefined threshold.



The directive comes in context of a telescopic pricing by CGDs.

"Such pricing practices may inadvertently facilitate unauthorised use of subsidised APM (administered pricing mechanism) gas by commercial consumers who may be misclassified as domestic consumers. Additionally, genuine domestic consumers with higher consumption levels may be unfairly subjected to elevated charges, despite natural gas being supplied to CGD entities at a uniform APM rate," PNGRB said.

Thorough review

It advised CGD firms to undertake a 'thorough review of consumption patterns and investigate anomalous cases where domestic consumers exhibit significantly higher usage relative to industry average and take corrective measures.

It also cited government norms where natural gas is allocated at concessional rates to boost its adoption by households and the transport sector.

Heritage Foods Q1 net dips 30% to ₹40.54 crore

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Dairy company Heritage Foods reported consolidated net profit for the first quarter ended June declined 30% to ₹40.54 crore.

The lower net profit came on a 10% increase in revenue from operations to ₹1,136.75 crore (₹1,032.67 crore). It was the first time quarterly revenue surpassed the ₹1,100 crore mark. Total income also rose more than 10% to ₹1,142.02 crore.

"While unseasonal rains in April-May temporarily impacted demand for value-added products (VAP) and weighed on profitability, June marked a healthy recovery," executive director Brahmani Nara said.

Adani sells ₹7,150-crore stake in AWL Agri

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Adani Group has sold a 20% stake in AWL Agri Business Ltd. (formerly Adani Wilmar Ltd). to Wilmar International, Singapore, for ₹7,150 crore, as per a filing.

Adani had in December announced divestment of its entire 44% stake in Adani Wilmar in order to sharpen its focus on core infrastructure businesses.

Adani Commodities LLP (ACL), subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Ltd. (AEL), and Lence Pte Ltd., subsidiary of Wilmar International, Singapore entered into an agreement. They gave each other the option to buy or sell AEL/ACL's shares in AWL (Adani Wilmar Ltd.) later, at a price they both agree on but not more than ₹305 per share. The two together held around 88% in the company (44% each).

In January, AEL/ACL sold 13.5% stake in AWL so that more of the firm's shares are owned by the public as per minimum public shareholding norms.

Sanathan Textiles to open Punjab unit in 6 weeks

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

Sanathan Textiles will commission a greenfield polyester filament yarn (PFY) production unit in Punjab in the next four to six weeks, said Sammir D. Dattani, executive director.

The plant is coming up with almost ₹2,100 crore investment in phase 1 and will have capacity to make 2.4 lakh tonne of yarn annually yielding a revenue of almost ₹1,500 crore in FY26, he told *The Hindu*.

The second phase will be commissioned in another two to three years.

Men feel disconnected from way ads portray them: Kantar

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Men surveyed felt genuine struggles like financial pressures were under-represented

Misrepresentation of women in advertisements has been a topic of discussion. New research shows men, too, are misrepresented.

Men across age groups felt advertisements perpetuate stereotypical attitudes towards masculinity, according to data in a report titled "Masculinity Maze" by Kantar Research.

"Our analysis reveals a dual reality when it comes to masculinity narratives. While some traditional beliefs about masculinity are consistently reinforced by advertising, other outdated norms persist more strongly in media than they do in men's own beliefs. This disconnect presents a risk and a strategic opportunity for brands," Kantar said in its report.

Men surveyed in the study felt traditional stereotypes were reinforced and genuine struggles such as financial pressures and internal conflicts were under-represented in the advertisements. The progressive portrayals of men were shown in advertisements to women, but not to men themselves.

Men said 35% of ads perpetuated the belief real men don't cry, 27% of them perpetuated the fear men do not voice fears and 24% felt sharing problems with women reduces status.

This pressure is not limited to psychological but also physical standards, gender dynamics and decision making.More than half of the gen-z men (born after 1997) felt ads were not reflecting but perpetuating male stereotypes.

The nationwide survey covered the views of 880 men aged 18-45 across eight major Indian cities.

INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(An Autonomous Institute under Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India)
Paschim Boragaon, Garchuk, Guwahati-781035

Advt. No. 552 Date :18/07/2025

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

Applications are invited for recruitment of three (3) faculty positions at the IASST.

Interested candidates may visit IASST website **(www.iasst.gov.in)** for detailed information

Registrar, IASST

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION JHUNJHUNU
No.:- 223 Date: 08.07.2025
NIB Code: PWD2526A0848 and UBN is: PWD2526WLOB02727

Corrigendium

इस कार्यालय के क्रमांक 125 दिनांक 26.05.2025 द्वारा आमंत्रित ऑनलाईन ई-निविदा सूचना 08/2025-26 (NIB No.: PWD2526A0848) के अपरिहार्य कारणों से निम्नानुसार संशोधन किया जाता है।

क्र. सं.	विवरण	पूर्व में टेण्डर प्रस्तुत करने की अन्तिम दिनांक व समय	संशोधित टेण्डर प्रस्तुत करने की अन्तिम दिनांक व समय
1	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म डाउनलोड करने व अपलोड करने	09.07.2025 सायं 05.00 बजे तक	24.07.2025 दोपहर 12.00 बजे तक
2	निविदा खोलने की दिनांक	09.07.2025 सायं 06.00 बजे	24.07.2025 सायं 5.00 बजे

शेष शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।
(NIB No.: PWD2526A0848)

Executive Engineer
PWD Division JHUNJHUNU
DIPR/C/9711/2025

GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN
DISTRICT SUPPLY OFFICE, IIND JODHPUR
Email- dsofood-jodr-rj@nic.in
Number: 79 Date: 09-07-2025

Notice Inviting Bid

e-Bids for selection of Handling and Transportation of Food grains Under PDS from FCI Depots in District **Jodhpur** are invited from interested bidders up to Date - 30/07/2025 Time 05:00 pm Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in or http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state, The approximate value of the procurement is **4 crore** for One year.
UBN-FCC2526SLRC00091

District Supply Officer IInd Jodhpur
DIPR/C/9776/2025

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist.
Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04324-277001 (10 Lines).

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
252623 001446	For Supply and erection of SS Ducts and supports for TM5 Mist & Dust Removal systems and Rewinder Trim Removal System - TNPL Unit-II	01.08.2025
252613 002758	Procurement of Caustic Soda Lye for Unit-I & II.	31.07.2025
252613 002763	Supply and Application of Thermal Insulation for RSPS#2 Project at TNPL Unit-I.	07.08.2025
252613 002781	Procurement of Sulphuric Acid for Unit-I & II.	31.07.2025
252613 002814	Procurement of Filler Grade Precipitated Calcium Carbonate (In Jumbo Bags) for Unit-I.	31.07.2025
252613 002767	Bleached Softwood Kraft Pulp (BSKP) for Unit-I.	30.07.2025
252613 002768	BCTMP Hardwood 80 - High Yield Pulp for Unit-I.	31.07.2025
252623 001457	Bleached Softwood Kraft Pulp (BSKP) Burst Index - 6.0 for Unit-II.	05.08.2025
252623 001458	Bleached Chemi Thermo Mechanical Pulp Soft Wood 70 - High Yield Pulp for Unit-II.	07.08.2025
252623 001460	BCTMP SW 70 - Bleached Chemi Thermo Mechanical Pulp Soft Wood 70 Brightness FSC Mix for Unit-II.	07.08.2025
252623 001461	BCTMP Hardwood 80 - High Yield Pulp (Low Tensile) for Unit-II.	12.08.2025
252623 001462	BCTMP Hardwood 70 - High Yield Pulp for Unit-II.	13.08.2025
Email	252623001446 - pmd2@tnpl.co.in 252613002758 ; 2781 ; 2814 - purchase.rawmatl@tnpl.co.in 252613002763 - pmd3@tnpl.co.in 252613002767 ; 2768 ; 252623001457 ; 1458 ; 1460 ; 1461 ; 1462 - purchase.pulp@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal. Detailed Terms & conditions, tender fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app
DIPR/3648/Tender/2025 TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper

राजस्थान सरकार
कार्यालय निदेशक, पुरातत्त्व एवं संग्रहालय विभाग, राजस्थान, जयपुर
(दूरभाष नं. 0141-2820360, email-dirarch@rajasthan.gov.in)
क्रमांक: पु.सं./स्मा./तक. / चांदपोल गेट पार्किंग/2025/9414 दिनांक 04/07/2025

ई-बिड सूचना

चांदपोल गेट, आमेर महल परिसर में पार्किंग स्थल के लिए दो वर्ष हेतु पार्किंग ठेका कार्य हेतु अनुभवी फर्मों से ऑनलाईन बिड दो अलग-अलग प्रस्तावों में (तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय प्रस्ताव के रूप में) आमंत्रित की जाती है। बोली का विवरण http://museumsrajasthan.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।
Bid UBN No. (1) AMD2526SLOB00034

DIPR/C/9563/2025 निदेशक

Kolkata Municipal Corporation
Sustainability, Hygiene and Resilience Project (KMC-SHARP)

CORRIGENDUM

The Expression of Interest (EOI) published on **19.06.2025** in connection with the selection of reputed consultancy firms for conducting internal audit under the **Kolkata Municipal Corporation - Sustainability, Hygiene and Resilience Project (KMC-SHARP)**.

The last date for submission of EOI proposals has been extended up to **1st August 2025 (15:00 hrs. IST)** through ADB's e-submission portal.

For further details, please visit : **https://csrn.adb.org, www.kmcgov.in** or **www.keiip.in**

SARAJEVO

Slovenia declares two Israeli Ministers persona non grata

REUTERS

Slovenia declared far-right Israeli Ministers Itamar Ben-Gvir and Bezalel Smotrich persona non grata on Thursday – the EU's first such move, Foreign Minister Tanja Fajon said. It accused the Ministers — both West Bank settlers — of making "genocidal statements" and inciting violence against Palestinians. REUTERS

MOSCOW

Captured villages in 3 separate areas of Ukraine, says Russia

AP

Russia claimed on Thursday it captured Popiv Yar, Degtiarne, and Kamianske, expanding its summer offensive despite U.S. calls to stop. Ukraine did not immediately respond to the claim. The Russian military's June territorial gains were the largest since November, amid a 50-day U.S. peace ultimatum. AFP

DAKAR

French military leaves Senegal, ending a 65-year troop presence

AFP

France on Thursday formally handed its last two military bases to Senegal, ending a 65-year troop presence and leaving no permanent French camps in west or central Africa. This move echoes continent-wide demands for sovereignty as France consolidates its military presence only in Djibouti. AFP

LONDON

U.K., Germany sign friendship treaty, deepening ties amid threats

GETTY IMAGES

Britain and Germany signed a wide-ranging friendship treaty on Thursday, deepening cooperation in defence, transport, and migration. The pact includes joint weapons exports, a new AI defence factory in Britain, and a mutual assistance clause, reflecting increased cooperation amid U.S. policy uncertainties. REUTERS

U.K. govt. plans to reduce age of voting from 18 to 16

This move marks the most significant franchise reform since 1969; the proposals, published in a 'policy paper', also included measures to curb election interference from abroad via donations

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

The new proposals are likely to benefit Labour, because younger U.K. voters tend to vote for centre-left and left parties. AFP

The U.K.'s Labour government on Thursday announced plans to reduce the voting age from 18 to 16, a campaign promise for the Labour and the biggest change since 1969, when the voting age was reduced from 21 to 18. The proposals, published in a 'policy paper' on Thursday, also included curbs on election interference from abroad via donations.

Lowering the voting age to 16 would bring national elections in line with the voting age in the Welsh and Scottish legislatures and in the local elections in those jurisdictions.

The proposals would bar 'shell companies' from making donations, "requiring companies to have made sufficient U.K. (or Ireland) generated income in order to donate". Eligible Irish companies will be able to donate towards Northern Ireland elections. Former ally of U.S. President Donald Trump and billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk had caused a furore in the U.K. last year, after it was reported that he was considering a large donation to far-right party Reform U.K. It is unclear how the proposed rules would impact Mr. Musk's ability to fund U.K. parties through his U.K.-based companies.

Thursday's paper pointed to the Electoral Commission's estimate that 7-8 million people who were otherwise eligible to vote were not registered. Registration will begin at the age of 14, under the proposed legislation, which aims to move towards automatic voter registration – already under way in several other countries. The government also proposed to introduce U.K. bank-issued cards as an acceptable form of ID at the polling booth as well as digital IDs such as digital veteran cards and driving licences.

The Conservative government of Rishi Sunak had introduced stricter ID requirements in 2023, arguing that it was done to tackle voter fraud and not to benefit at the polls. Soon after the stricter ID laws were passed, former Conservative Minister Jacob Rees-Mogg had suggested that the party had shot itself in the foot by making the changes, when it performed badly in local polls in May 2023. Speaking at the National Conservativism Conference, Mr. Rees-Mogg had suggested that his party had tightened voter ID to garner an electoral advantage.

The new proposals, if they become law, are likely to benefit Labour, because younger U.K. voters tend to vote for centre-left and left parties. Some 20% of in the 70+ year age group voted for Labour in the 2024 elections, while 41% of 18-24 year olds voted for the party, as per data from YouGov. Prime Minister Keir Starmer's popularity has declined since his party won a landslide victory in July 2024.

"I think it's really important that 16- and 17-year-olds have the vote, because they are old enough to go out to work, they are old enough to pay taxes..." Mr. Starmer said on Thursday.

Syrian forces withdraw from Druze city after truce deal

Associated Press
DAMASCUS

Lost souls: The bodies of victims of recent clashes laid out for identification in the yard of a hospital in Sweida on Wednesday. AFP

Syrian forces largely withdrew from the southern province of Sweida on Thursday following days of clashes with militias linked to the Druze minority.

While the truce between Druze armed groups and government forces appeared to be largely holding, state media reported that Druze militants had launched revenge attacks on communities of Sunni Bedouins, leading to a wave of displacement.

Bedouin clans had fought alongside government forces against the Druze groups.

Druze leaders and Syrian government officials reached a ceasefire deal mediated by the United States, Turkiye and Arab countries. Under the ceasefire agreement reached on Wednesday, Druze factions and clerics have been appointed to maintain internal security in Sweida, Syria's interim President Ahmad al-Sharaa, also known as Abu Mohammad al-Jolani, said in an address broadcast early Thursday.

Convoys of government forces started withdrawing from the city of Sweida overnight as Syrian state media said the withdrawal was in line with the ceasefire agreement and the military operation against the Druze factions had ended.

Syrian state television channel *Al-Ikhbariya* said "tens of families" of Bedouins had fled following the revenge attacks.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said that Druze factions had entered several Bedouin villages.

More than 500 dead in south Syria violence

Agence France-Presse
DAMASCUS

More than 500 people have been killed since the weekend in violent clashes in Syria's southern Sweida province, a war monitor said on Thursday, updating an earlier toll.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said that since clashes erupted on Sunday, 79 Druze fighters were killed along with 154 civilians, 83 of them in "summary executions by members of the Defence and Interior Ministries", while 243 Defence and Interior Ministry personnel and 18 Bedouin fighters were also killed. The Observatory said the victims in Sweida included a media worker, identifying him as Hassan al-Zaabi.

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Zelenskyy shakes up Ukrainian Cabinet, appoints a new PM

Associated Press
KYIV

Yuliia Svyrydenko

Ukraine's Economy Minister and the key negotiator in the mineral deal with the U.S, Yuliia Svyrydenko, was appointed as its new Prime Minister on Thursday, becoming the country's first new head of government since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion in 2022.

Ms. Svyrydenko is one of a group of officials taking on new roles in Ukraine's government, as President Volodymyr Zelenskyy reshuffled the Cabinet in a bid to energise a war-weary nation and boost domestic weapons production.

Denys Shmyhal, who served as PM from 2020 to 2025, will become the Defence Minister.

India reiterates call for Bangladesh poll that is 'inclusive'

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India on Thursday reiterated that the next election of Bangladesh should be "inclusive" and have "everybody in its fold". The official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs commented on the election a day after student leaders of the interim government-backed National Citizens Party clashed with cadres of the Awami League in the latter's stronghold of Gopalganj.

"On elections in Bangladesh, you know our point of view. We have said that, as a democracy, we would welcome holding of elections, that is inclusive and includes everybody in its fold," said official spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal.

In a press statement, the interim government announced that a committee has been formed to investigate the violence in Gopalganj. Sources in the Awami League countered the interim government by circulating an audio statement purportedly by former Prime Minister Hasina, in which she condemned the interim government.

Fire at a shopping centre in Iraq kills 61

Associated Press
BAGHDAD

Burnt remains: Fire trucks stand next to the remains of a shopping centre in Kut of Iraq's Wasit province on Thursday. REUTERS

A fire engulfed a newly-opened shopping centre in eastern Iraq, killing more than 60 people, including children, Iraqi officials said on Thursday.

Civil defence teams rescued more than 45 people who became trapped when the fire broke out late Wednesday in the city of Kut in Wasit province, the Interior Ministry said in a statement. Others are still missing, according to the state-run *Iraqi News Agency*.

Photographs and videos on local media showed the Corniche Hypermarket Mall, a five-story shopping centre that had opened only a week earlier, fully engulfed in flames.

While the cause of the fire is still under investigation, officials and residents alleged that lack of fire safety measures in the building contributed to the scale of the tragedy.

Iraq's Ministry of Interior said in a statement that 61 people died in the shopping centre fire, most of them from suffocation. Among the dead were 14 charred bodies that remain unidentified, it said.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, THASMIYA Amreen Sulthana, w/o Mohammed Kasheef, No–409, 3rd Cross, Old Extension, Super Spity Hospital, K.R Puram, Blr–560036. Have Changed My Name to Thasmiya Amreen Sultana. Vide Affdavit on 15/07/2025.

I, AMRUTA Suresh Kini, w/o Sushant Balur, Arvind Skylands A 401, Shivanahalli, Jakkur, Blr–560064. Have Changed My Name to Amruta Balur. Vide Affdavit on 15/07/2025.

I, JOHANNA John Premia, w/o Rathnakiran Paulraj, 101, Sri Nilaya Apts, Vadeyarapura Kamaladevi Enclave, Nitte Meenakshi College Road, Yelahanka, Blr–560064. /Have Changed My Name to Johanna. Vide Affdavit On 16/07/2025.

I, Godwin Fredrick Arunachalam S/o Arunachalam R/o Z103, T1, Mantri Serenity Apts B'luru-560062 have changed my name to Godwin Fredrick for all purposes.

I, G Devishree, residing at A101, Ahad Meadows, Hadosiddapura, B'lore-560035 have changed my name to Devishree vide affidavit dt. 14/07/2025 sworn before notary B.M. Chandrashekar B'lore

I, Pamuru Sai Shreynik Reddy S/O, Pamuru Sreedhar Reddy R/o No 102, Dharma Residency, 5th B Cross, OMBR Layout, Banasawadi, Bangalore - 560043 have changed my name to Pamuru Sai Shrenik Reddy .

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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE VI ADDITIONAL DISTRICT AND SESSION JUDGE BENGALURU RURAL DISTRICT AT BENGALURU
P & S.C. 54/2025

BETWEEN : SRI. SRINIVAS, Son of Late Munigurappa, Aged about 55 years, Residing at No. 159, Durgadevi Colony, Mandur Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru-560 049. ...Petitioner
AND : Nil ...Respondent

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the above Petitioner has filed a petition under section 276 of Indian succession Act, praying for issue probate on the last **WILL dated: 22/04/1995** executed by the petitioner's mother Venkatamma wife of Munigurappa in favour of the petitioner **in respect of the schedule, so as to enable the petitioner to possess, enjoy and deal with his respective schedule property, as a absolute owners thereof as per last will and wish of deceased** Venkatamma wife of Munigurappa, the testator of the said WILL and to pass such other appropriate order/s as this Hon'ble court may deem fit to grant the probate on the facts and circumstances of the case.

Any person having their objection/s for issue of Probate Certificate in respect of the Schedule in favour of the petitioners and any person having interest may cause the same by appearing before the court in person or through their Advocate **on this 30th day of August 2025 at 11.00 AM,** failing which the matter will be heard and disposed off in accordance with law.

SCHEDULE

All the piece and parcel of the **Gramatana property bearing 167:45, Measuring to an extent of East to West 45 feet and North to South 45 feet and Gramatana property bearing 167:45 and Measuring to an extent of East to West 25 feet and North to South 25 feet, totally measuring to an extent of 2650 sq.feets.** Situated at Mandur Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, previously Bengaluru South Taluk, Presently Bengaluru East Taluk and both are commonly bounded on:- **East by :** Property belongs to Chikka Muniyappa and Rajanna, **West by :** Vacant Site and Road, **North by :** Property belongs to Gurappa, **South by :** Vacant site and Lakshmappa.

Give under my hand and seal of the court on this 17th day of July 2025.

By order of the Court,
Chief Administrative Officer,
District & Sessions Court,
Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore.
Advocate for Plaintiff : **M.V. VENKATESH**
No. 53, 1st Floor, 28th Cross,
Cubbonpet Main Road,
Bangalore-560 002. Mob. 9900805433

TENDERS

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TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited for (https://etenders.kerala.gov.in) TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF PET BOTTLES (1000 Ml) FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01.08.2025 TO 31.07.2027 **(Tender ID-2025_TSC_776880_1 & Last Date of Submission-22.07.2025 at 4 PM)** For more details contact office/ website.

Thiruvalla 15.07.2025 (Sd/-) GM (I/c)

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಕಾರವಾರ
CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, KARWAR
E-mail:ka.karwar.cmc@gmail.com Fax: 08382-222170
Website: www.karwarcity.mrc. gov.in Phone: 08382-227900

ನಂ/ನಸಕಾ/ಕಾವಿ/ಟೆಂಡರು–16/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16.07.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಕಾಯಿದೆ 1999 ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿ–2000 ರಂತೆ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾರವಾರ ನಗರಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ 2025–26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ 2025–26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ನಗರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾಗಿರುವ 03 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು KQ-3, KW-1 ರಂತೆ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟು ಐಬಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರುಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ ದಿನಾಂಕ:– 30–07–2025 ರ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 5:00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಟೆಂಡರು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು. ದಿನಾಂಕ: 31–07–2025 ರಂದು ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 5:30 ನಂತರ ಅಥವಾ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದ ದಿನದಂದು ಸ್ವೀಕೃತವಾದ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯವನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು ಅಥವಾ ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಅಂತರಜಾಲ http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಣಬಹುದು.

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FORM NO. NCLT. 3A
Advertisement Detailing Petition
[Rule 35 of the National Company Law Tribunal Rules, 2016]
BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL BENGALURU BENCH AT BENGALURU
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013
AND
IN THE MATTER OF SECTIONS 230 TO 232 OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013 AND OTHER APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013 READ WITH COMPANIES (COMPROMISES, ARRANGEMENTS AND AMALGAMATIONS) RULES, 2016
AND
IN THE MATTER OF MORE-FINANSHARE INVESTMENTS PRIVATE LIMITED AND GOLFLINKS PROPERTIES PRIVATE LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF SCHEME OF AMALGAMATION BETWEEN MORE-FINANSHARE INVESTMENTS PRIVATE LIMITED AND GOLFLINKS PROPERTIES PRIVATE LIMITED AND THEIR RESPECTIVE SHAREHOLDERS
CP (CAA) NO. 16/BB/2025
Connected with
CA (CAA) NO. 04/BB/2025
MORE-FINANSHARE INVESTMENTS PRIVATE LIMITED
CIN: U68100KA1995PTC035122
Registered Office: Embassy Point, I Floor,150 Infantry Road, Bengaluru- 560001
Represented by its Authorised Representative/ Director
PAN: AAECM1103H
...PETITIONER COMPANY NO. 1 / TRANSFEROR COMPANY
GOLFLINKS PROPERTIES PRIVATE LIMITED
CIN: U45200KA2009PTC051005
Registered Office: Embassy Point, I Floor, 150 Infantry Road, Bengaluru- 560001
Represented by its Authorised Representative/ Director
PAN: AADCV1015A
... PETITIONER COMPANY NO. 2 / TRANSFEREE COMPANY
NOTICE OF HEARING OF JOINT PETITION

A Joint Petition under Sections 230 to 232 of the Companies Act, 2013, seeking approval of the Scheme of Amalgamation between More-Finanshare Investments Private Limited (Petitioner Company No.1/Transferor Company) and Golflinks Properties Private Limited (Petitioner Company No.2/ Transferee Company) was presented before the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Bengaluru Bench ('NCLT') on 03.07.2025. The said Joint Petition was admitted by the Hon'ble NCLT vide order dated 03.07.2025 and is fixed for hearing before the Hon'ble NCLT on 21.08.2025.

The Hon'ble NCLT was pleased to dispense-off with the meetings of members and creditors of both the Transferor and Transferee Companies vide order dated 04.03.2025 in CA(CAA)No.04/BB/2025.

Any person desirous of supporting or opposing the said Joint Petition should send to the Petitioner's Advocate, notice of his intention, signed by him or his advocate, with his name and address, so as to reach the Petitioner's Advocate not later than two days before the date fixed for the hearing of the said Joint Petition. Where he seeks to oppose the Joint Petition, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the Joint Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of the prescribed charges for the same.

Sd/-
Manjunath S
Advocate for the Petitioner No.1 and Petitioner No.2
#9, 'ManjuShree', 3rd Floor, West Link Road,
Malleswaram, Bangalore-560 003

Date:17.07.2025
Place: Bengaluru

NO MORE DILEMMA

Pant will be ready for the fourth Test, confirms assistant coach

PTI

Rishabh Pant injured his index finger during the Lord's Test and continued to bat. India's assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate said that Pant will be ready in time for the fourth Test. "I don't think it's going to keep Rishabh out of the Test. He batted with quite a lot of pain and it's only going to get easier and easier on his finger".

PRIORITIES

India is not thinking about the ODI World Cup now: Deepti

REUTERS

Deepti Sharma feels that the Indian team is on the right track as far as preparations for the Women's ODI World Cup are concerned. "Just in terms of preparation for the World Cup, we did some good things in Sri Lanka and here [England] also. The World Cup is a little too far (away). We are not thinking about that," Deepti said.

CLIMBING UP

Mustafizur becomes fifth-highest wicket-taker in T20Is

FILE PHOTO

Bangladesh seamer Mustafizur Rahman (136 wickets) has surpassed England spinner Adil Rashid (135) to become the fifth-highest wicket-taker in T20Is. Tim Southee (164), Rashid Khan (161), Shakib Al Hasan (149) and Ish Sodhi (146) are ahead of Mustafizur in the shortest international format of the game.

SCALING HEIGHTS

Pogacar reclaims yellow jersey after crushing mountain win

AFP

Tadej Pogacar reclaimed the leader's yellow jersey at the Tour de France rankings with an imperious stage 12 win on the Hautacam mountain on Thursday. Pogacar skipped away on an 11km solo ascent to finish 2min 10sec ahead of Jonas Vingegaard while overnight leader Ben Healy wilted to a 10min deficit on the day.

Will Kuldeep's long wait end at Old Trafford?

Former England captain Lamb says Washington should make way for the wrist-spinner; the specialist tweaker has featured in just 13 Tests since making his debut in March 2017

INDIA IN ENGLAND

Shayan Acharya
BECKENHAM

As India trained at the Beckenham County Ground on a cloudy Thursday morning, after a two-day break, Kuldeep Yadav bowled to Karun Nair and Abhimanyu Easwaran in one of the nets for about an hour. Not in a stretch, but at frequent intervals.

Since landing in England nearly a month ago, this has been Kuldeep's routine – turn up for training, bowl in the nets, and then warm the bench as the morning of the match dawns.

He had to wait in Leeds, then in Birmingham, and as India went with Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar at Lord's, all the left-arm wrist-spinner could do was train alone at the Nursery Ground in between the sessions.

But with some sort of turn expected at Old Trafford, will Kuldeep get his chance?

Farokh Engineer, who has been a resident of Manchester for years and knows the conditions well, believes that India should bring Kuldeep in and leave Nitish Kumar Reddy out. Former England captain Allan Lamb, however, has a slightly different take on the matter.

Knowing the Old Trafford surface inside out, Lamb believes that Washington should make way for Kuldeep.

Ready to go: Kuldeep will be keen on making a mark with the series on the line. PTI

"There's one thing lacking in the Indian team. They do not have a [specialist] spinner. They gotta be playing Kuldeep. At Old Trafford, it does turn a bit, and I would have [played] him straight away," Lamb told *The Hindu*.

In the last couple of games, India played Washington and Jadeja, keeping their all-round skills in mind.

The former claimed key wickets at Lord's while the latter fought a lone battle with the bat in the second innings.

"Washington and Jadeja are all-rounders, but they are more focused on their batting. I understand why India picked them because they were worried about their batting at the beginning. But now that's not the case, the decision not to play Kuldeep surprises me," Lamb said.

Ever since making his debut in March 2017 against Australia in Dharamshala, Kuldeep has featured in just 13 Tests across nine series, and went on to bag the Player-of-the-Match on a couple of occasions.

While at home, he had to warm the bench due to the presence of R. Ashwin, Jadeja and Axar Patel for the longest time; on overseas tours, the team management's decision to often not play more than one spinner meant either Jadeja or Ashwin made the cut.

With Ashwin walking into retirement and Jasprit Bumrah not available for more than three games, there were chances of the team management using Kuldeep as the specialist spinner in the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy.

However, that hasn't been the case so far.

Despite the fact that Kuldeep is not limited by conditions and has the ability to provide breakthroughs at crucial junctures, the team management looked beyond him in flat surfaces in Leeds and Birmingham.

But now, with the series on the line and the Old Trafford strip expected to aid the spinners a bit, will India finally play Kuldeep? Time will tell.

There will be a leaning towards playing Bumrah, says ten Doeschate

Shayan Acharya
BECKENHAM

Jasprit Bumrah spent quite a bit of time at the gym, but did not bowl as India had a long practice session at the Beckenham County Ground on Thursday.

While it raised questions on whether he would be available for the series-deciding fourth Test in Manchester, India's assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate indicated that there is a possibility of Bumrah turning up at Old Trafford.

"We will still make that call in Manchester, as we know we've got him for one of the last two Tests. It's pretty obvious the series is on the line now in Manchester, so there will be a leaning towards playing him," ten Doeschate said.

Pace-pack: The focus will be on Bumrah and Arshdeep leading into the Manchester Test. PTI

"But again, we have got to look at all the factors – how many days of cricket are we going to get up there? What do we feel is our best chance of winning that game? And then how that fits in together with The Oval and looking at the last two games holistically as part of the series," the assistant coach added.

It was decided earlier that Bumrah will play only three Tests on the tour, and in the two matches that he featured in the series so far, Bumrah bowled 43.4 overs in Leeds, and claimed a five-for in the first innings, while resting at Birmingham. He returned to Lord's for the third Test, and went on to take seven wickets.

However, with Arshdeep Singh also suffering an injury during training, there aren't too many options. While bowling to B. Sai Sudharsan, Arshdeep sustained a cut on his bowling hand and it had to be strapped with bandages.

"We have to see how bad the cut is. The medical team has taken him to see a doctor and obviously if he needs stitches or doesn't need stitches that's going to be important to our planning for the next few days," ten Doeschate said.

Team India resumes training in earnest

Shayan Acharya
BECKENHAM

Some foot-tapping music at the gym, some banter and a lot of laughter – there were plenty of sunshine moments during India's training session on a rather cloudy and gloomy Thursday at the Beckenham County Ground.

Resuming training after a two-day break, following the heart-breaking defeat at Lord's, the Indian team looked rejuvenated and relaxed as they geared up for next week's fourth Test at Old Trafford.

While K.L. Rahul skipped the session, all three fast bowlers who played for India in the last game – Jasprit Bumrah, Akash Deep and Mohammed Siraj – did not bowl but did their basic fitness routines.

In fact, Siraj batted for a while, as India's bowling coach Morne Morkel was seen bowling a long spell in the nets. "Seven overs and five wickets!" Morkel later said in a jest as he walked towards the dressing room. While Abhimanyu Easwaran, Karun Nair and Yashasvi Jaiswal had long sessions in the nets, Rishabh Pant played a bit of tennis and took some throw-downs, but did not bat, nor did he keep wickets.

Having been in England for more than three weeks now, the team management ensured that the players remained refreshed. "It hasn't felt like a long tour, it's been exciting from day one, like you get up every morning and you can't wait for what the next day brings," Ryan ten Doeschate, the assistant coach, said.

"Obviously, these guys are working so hard, especially the guys who are new to the squad, so it's been a very refreshing tour in that sense," he added.

While Bumrah was seen discussing a thing or two with Arshdeep Singh, who injured his hand, and Akash, batting coach Sitanshu Kotak and Doeschate had individual sessions with the batters in a bit to keep them ready for the long grind.

Jaiswal. PTI

Calm Deepti wins it for Women in Blue in first ODI

Press Trust of India
SOUTHAMPTON

Deepti Sharma showed enormous composure with an unbeaten half-century that powered India to a comfortable four-wicket victory in the opening women's ODI against England on Wednesday.

The dress rehearsals for India's ODI World Cup started in earnest as a target of 259 was chased with 10 balls to spare, courtesy Deepti's unbeaten 62 off 64 balls with three boundaries and a six. Her 90-run fifth-wicket stand with Jemimah Rodrigues (48, 54b) proved to be a match-winning one.

Amanjot Kaur (20, 14b) provided the finishing touches as the target was achieved with minimum fuss despite India being reduced to 124 for 4 at one stage.

Deepti, whose slog over batting has come in for some flak, was brilliant in planning the chase. The shot of the match was her one-handed six off Lauren Bell over deep mid-wicket.

Deepti. GETTY IMAGES

Captain Harmanpreet Kaur was elated with India's performance. "Happy with the way we bowled. Happy with how we batted, especially Deepti. We thought we gave away an extra 20-30 runs. Fielding is something we are working on. Jemi is calm on the field, and credit goes to Deepti for the way she batted."

Earlier, seamer Kranti Goud (two for 55) impressed with two wickets upfront before Sophia Dunkley's unbeaten 92-ball 83 lifted England to a respectable 258 for six. Off-spinner Sneh Rana (two for 31) bowled an economical spell to help India restrict the host.

Alice Davidson Richards contributed 53 in 73 balls during a 106-run partnership for the fifth wicket with Dunkley. All this did not matter as the Women in Blue aced the chase.

The scores: England 258/6 in 50 overs lost to India 262/6 in 48.2 overs (Pratika 36, Jemimah 48, Deepti 62 n.o.); **PoM:** Deepti.

All four Indians to feature in tie-breakers

CHESS

Press Trust of India
BATUMI (GEORGIA)

International Master Divya Deshmukh was outplayed by Zhu Jiner of China in the return game of the pre-quarterfinals in the FIDE World Women's Chess Cup here on Thursday.

In fact, all the four Indians left in the fray are down to the tie-breaker to secure a place in the last-eight stage.

K. Humpy played another draw against Alexandra Kosteniuk, D. Harika held Kateryna Lagno, while Meruert Kamalidenova of Kazakshtan kept R. Vaishali in check to force a tie-breaker.

Three Chinese players – Lei Tingjie, Song Yuxin and Tan Zhongyi – cruised into the quarterfinals.

Stellar: Praggnanandhaa derailed Carlsen. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Praggnanandhaa stuns Carlsen, in quarters

Press Trust of India
LAS VEGAS

R. Praggnanandhaa took down World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen en route the top-bracket quarterfinals along with Arjun Erigaisi at the $750,000 Freestyle Grand Slam Tour here.

Carlsen lost another game against Wesley So in the next round and was eliminated from the top bracket by Levon Aronian in the final tiebreaker for the fourth spot.

Arjun was the other Indian from the second group who progressed.

Praggnanandhaa tied for the first spot on 4.5 points out of a possible seven in his group with Uzbekistan's Nodirbek Abdusattorov and Javokhir Sandarov, along with Aronian, finishing on four points. In the second group christened black, Hikaru Nakamura topped the standings. Arjun finished tied third on four points with Fabiano Caruana.

Quarterfinal pairings:
Praggnanandhaa vs Caruana; Abdusattorov vs Arjun; Aronian vs Nakamura; Niemann vs Sindarov.
Lower bracket: Carlsen vs Gujrathi; Robson vs Keymer; Dominguez vs Assaubayeva; Samuel vs Wesley.

Olesen, Fitzpatrick, and Li in the van

BRITISH OPEN

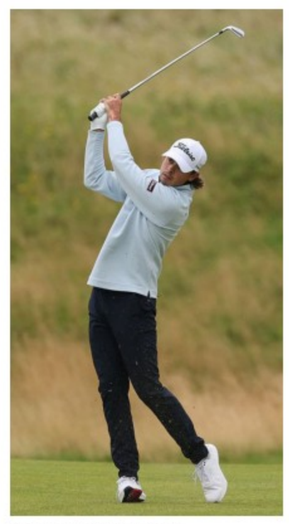
Reuters
PORTRUSH

World No. 354 Jacob Skov Olesen of Denmark, China's Li Haotong and England's Matthew Fitzpatrick shot four-under-par 67s to share the British Open first-round lead in tough conditions at Royal Portrush on Thursday.

World No.1 Scottie Scheffler was one stroke adrift after a 68, and Rory McIlroy made a solid start to his bid for a second Claret Jug after recovering from a nervous bogey five at the first hole.

The Northern Irishman regained his composure to birdie the second and fifth holes and get to one under par.

After early sunshine on the Dunluce Links, heavy rain made life difficult for the players.



Olesen. GETTY IMAGES

England's Matthew Jordan joined the American on 68. Former World No.1 Lee Westwood and Dane Nicolai Hojgaard also began well with two-under 69s.

Veteran Phil Mickelson, the 2013 Open champion, rolled back the years with a 70, including a spectacular par-save when he holed out from a bunker.

Indians falter at Japan Open

Press Trust of India
TOKYO

Indian shuttlers continued to falter at the Japan Open badminton with Lakshya Sen and the men's doubles duo of R. Satwiksairaj and Chirag Shetty bowing out in the second round on Thursday.

Lakshya lost 19-21, 11-21 to Japan's Kodai Naraoka.

Satwik and Chirag were handed a 22-24, 14-21 defeat by fifth seeds Liang Wei Keng and Wang Chang. Anupama Upadhyaya fought hard against second seed Wang Zhi Hi of China before losing her round-of-16 match 21-13, 11-21, 12-21.

LIVE TELECAST

T20I Tri-series: Zimbabwe vs New Zealand, FanCode, 4.30 p.m.

Poor Pro League campaign a wake-up call for India: Sreejesh

The men finished eighth while the women were relegated after finishing with the wooden spoon in the nine-team roster

HOCKEY

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

The recently concluded FIH Pro League was not too kind to Indian hockey. While the women's team got relegated after finishing last in the nine-team competition in June, the men, who were on a high after winning a second straight Olympic bronze in Paris nearly 12 months ago, finished eighth in the Europe leg of the marquee league after a run of seven consecutive defeats.

Former India captain and goalkeeping great P.R. Sreejesh said the poor run of results should be a wake-up call for the men's team ahead of next year's Asian Games and World Cup. The 37-year-old, who retired at the end of the Paris Games, was speaking in the national capital on the sidelines of the launch of the 20th edition of the Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon. The race, which will be flagged off from the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, is slated for October 12.

Disappointing: The Indian teams had few such celebrations in this season's Pro League. AP

"The players gave a good fight on the field. Sometimes, the results are not favourable. Looking forward to next year, the Asian Games and the World Cup are coming up. Pro League can be a very good wake-up call for the team to be on its toes and prepare for the World Cup and Asian Games," the two-time Olympic bronze medallist told reporters.

Since hanging up his playing boots, Sreejesh has transitioned to training the young generation.

He is currently the chief coach of the Indian men's junior hockey team. His major assignment this year is the Men's FIH Hockey Junior World Cup in November and December that Chennai and Madurai are co-hosting.

Facing pressure

"I faced enough pressure as a player. Being a coach, it is time for me to take the pressure off the players.

"India is hosting the junior World Cup. Maybe there are going to be around 10,000 people watching the players. I've just told them to be ready to accept these things and give their best on any particular day," he said.

INBRIEF

India u-20 women thrash Uzbekistan 4-1

The India under-20 women's national team convincingly defeated Uzbekistan 4-1 in their second friendly match at the Do'stlik Stadium in Tashkent on Wednesday.

The result: Uzbekistan u-20 1 (Shakhnoza Dekanbaeva 37) lost to India u-20 4 (Sibani Devi Nongmeikapam 28, 85, Sulanjana Raul 65, Neha 71).

Trailblazer footballer Aditi announces retirement

Exactly a decade after becoming the first Indian woman to play professional football in Europe, trailblazing goalkeeper Aditi Chauhan has announced her retirement from the game. The 32-year-old donned the India jersey 57 times and was part of senior teams that won the SAFF Women's Championship in 2012, 2016 and 2019. Aditi also won the IWL with Gokulam Kerala FC.

Railways shuts out SAI-NCoE (Bhopal); Navy outwits IOC

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

Defending champion Indian Railways and Indian Navy scripted an all-win record in their respective pools with impressive victories as the league matches in the MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup invitation hockey tournament came to an end at the SDAT-Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium here on Thursday.

Railways scored a comfortable 5-2 victory over SAI-NCoE (Bhopal) in a Pool-A match, while Navy shocked former champion IOC 3-2 in an exciting Pool-B tie.

Easily done: Shivam, left, slotting in Railways' third goal. R. RAGU

Undoubtedly, Navy has been the standout team in the tournament. The young team has shown a remarkable ability to outpace its opponent in every match. With some outstanding players such as strikers K. Selvaraj and Ajinkya Jadhav and midfielder Navin Kerketta, Navy has set an example for others to follow for the right mix of defence and offence.

After a goalless first two quarters, IOC opened the account towards the end of the third when Olympian V.R. Raghunath converted a penalty corner. Then, in a matter of six minutes, Navy showcased its attacking might by scoring three goals from which the former champion never recovered.

K. Selvaraj was the star of the match as he scored a brace.

First, he scored by deflecting one off a penalty corner shot by Sanjit Toppo and then netted a rebound from the 'keeper Pankaj Rajak.

Requiring a victory to make it to the playoffs, NCoE never really showed the stomach for a win as Railways literally closed out the match in the first two quarters by slotting in four goals.

Former international Gursahibjit Singh was again the torch-bearer for his team with a hat-trick.

Friday is a rest day.

The results: Pool-A: Indian Railways 5 (Gursahibjit Singh 7, 28 & 59, Darshan Gawkar 21, Shivam Anand 26) bt NCOE Bhopal 2 (Mohit Karma 32, Munish Malik 37).
B: Navy 3 (K. Selvaraj 49 & 55, Ashish Topno 54) bt IOC 2 (V.R. Raghunath 45, Gurjinder Singh 60).
Points table (read as team, played, won, draw, loss, points): Pool-A: Railways, 4, 4, 0, 0, 12; Army, 4, 2, 0, 2, 6; HUTN, 4, 1, 2, 1, 5; SAI NCoE (Bhopal) 4, 1, 1, 2, 4; Maharashtra, 4, 0, 1, 3, 1.
Pool-B: Navy, 4, 4, 0, 0, 12; IOC, 4, 3, 0, 1, 9; Karnataka, 4, 1, 1, 2, 4; Malaysian National junior team, 4, 1, 1, 2, 4; CBDT, 4, 0, 0, 4, 0.
Semifinal line-up: Railways vs IOC; Navy vs Army.

Second edition of Chennai Open WTA tennis tournament from October 27

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu Tennis Association (TNTA) and the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu (SDAT) announced on Thursday that the SDAT tennis stadium in Nungambakkam will host the second edition of the Chennai Open, a WTA 250 event, from October 27 to November 2, marking TNTA's 100th anniversary.

The first edition was held in 2022. The total prize money is $275,094. The singles qualifying and main draws will feature 24 and 32 players respectively, and the doubles main draw 16. Top-100 players are expected to participate, said TNTA president Vijay Amritraj, speaking after the event.

The Tamil Nadu government has allocated ₹12 crore for the conduct of the tournament. Amritraj said the money will be distributed across various needs - payment of the licence fee to the licence-holder Octagon (a global sports management and marketing agency), stadium refurbishment, rain preparedness (rains are forecast for October), and hospitality for the players and spectators.

In honour: Vijay Amritraj presents a memento to TN Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

The tournament takes place just before the WTA Finals (Nov. 1 to 8) and also clashes with the Jiangxi Open in China and the Prudential Hong Kong Tennis Open, which are to be held on the same dates.

Asked if a top-10 player can be expected to participate, he said: "There are WTA rules that are guided by the size of the tournament. So in a 250 (tournament), you could have one player from the top-10, (and that) depends on the appearance money.

"I think Octagon is a good avenue for us as well, because they also represent a lot of players. So, hopefully, I'm expecting some help from them as well."

On the chances of Indian players getting main draw wild cards, he said: "I think Maaya (Rajeshwaran Revathi) might be the only one who has a real good chance of getting a wild card." About whether Chennai will continue to host the tournament every year, he said: "The current arrangement in the contract with Octagon is three years, with the caveat that the government is happy to support it for the next two years. But WTA has only granted us operation for one year, mainly because of the rain issue."

Khelo Bharat Conclave seeks collective effort for Indian sports

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Government highlighted the way for National Sports Federations, State Governments, and Corporate houses towards playing a major role in taking Indian sports forward in the global arena, at the Khelo Bharat Conclave on Thursday.

"Sports is a public movement. We can set goals and achieve them only if we all work together," said the Union Sports Minister, Mansukh Mandaviya.

A beginning: The inauguration of the Khelo Bharat Conclave in Delhi on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Conclave saw four presentations on Sports governance reforms, Khelo Bharat Niti, India's medal-winning roadmap and the 'One Corporate One Sport' initiative. Every presentation was followed by an interactive session.

"By employing this integrated policy, India can shine in the world of entertainment, generate jobs and provide direction to the youth of India," said the Minister of State for Sports, Raksha Khadse.

"I urge the National Sports Federations to provide a five-year policy by August and then we can develop a 10-year plan. With the Asian Games next year, we need a holistic approach because we not only want to win medals in the Olympics, but make sports a commercial property, inviting the world to come and play in India and boost sports tourism," Mandaviya said.